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Israeli Minister Foresees 10,000 New Homes on Golan

KATZRIN, Golan Heights — Israeli Interior Minister Eli Suissa called Wednesday for the construction of 10,000 new homes for Jewish settlers on the occupied Golan Heights.

"The time has come to act, instead of talking about the Golan, we need to populate it," Suissa said during a tour of the strategic plateau which Israel seized from Syria in the 1967 war and annexed in 1981.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

At Least 70 Percent Bosnians Turnout in Vote in Germany

BONN — At least 70 percent of Bosnian refugees in Germany who were registered to vote in Bosnia's national elections cast their ballots, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said Wednesday.

Jens Grimm, German spokesman for the organization which is organizing the polls, said it had received some 90,000 ballot papers several hours after the end of advance voting.

(Contd on Pg. 14)

U.S. Launches Second Attack on Iraq

IRAQ RESUMES SHELLING NORTH



BAGHDAD, Iraq (September 3): Iraqis carrying weapons demonstrate in Baghdad after the U.S. fired Cruise missiles on southern Iraq. The attack came in retaliation for Saddam Hussein's drive in the Kurdish safe haven in the north.

(AFP PHOTO)

BAGHDAD — U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf launched a second salvo of Tomahawk Cruise missiles against military targets in southern Iraq on Wednesday as a "no-fly zone" was expanded to the edge of the capital Baghdad.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Netanyahu, Arafat Begin First Summit

EREZ CROSSING, Gaza Strip — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat exchanged an historic handshake Wednesday at the start of their first direct talks aimed at unblocking the stalled peace process.

The Israeli leader, straight-faced, and a smiling Arafat reached across the negotiating table to shake hands before beginning talks on the implementation of a year-old interim agreement on Palestinian self-rule.

The gesture came almost three years to the day after slain former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin became the first Israeli leader to shake Arafat's hand at the September 13, 1993 White House signing ceremony for the first Oslo peace accord.

At the top of the men's agenda of unfinished business is Israel's delayed withdrawal from Al-Khalil, but the two sides were also expected to discuss Palestinian demands for an easing of the closure imposed on the West Bank and Gaza Strip six months ago and a host of other issues.

Arafat was accompanied to the talks, held at an Israeli Army barracks inside the Erez facility in the Palestinian-ruled Gaza Strip, by his top deputy. (AFP)

President Inspects Tea Estate, KARI



By Our Correspondent

NAIROBI, Kenya — Visiting Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani inspected Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute (KARI), Muguga, Miramba tea estate and Mabroukie tea factory on the outskirt of Nairobi Wednesday.

Head of KARI and the Minister for Research, Technical Training and Technology, Zachary Onyonka, welcomed President Rafsanjani and his entourage and briefed them on the activities of the center.

Onyonka said the center had produced vaccines against animal diseases and is conducting research in this area.

Three Iranian members of Parliament (MPs) accompanying President Rafsanjani to Kenya held talks with Kenyan speaker of Parliament Francis Ole Kaparo on Wednesday.

The MPs, Hojjatoleslam Doa'ei, Houssein Mar'ashi and Faezeh Hashemi conveyed a written message from Iranian Majlis speaker Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri to his Kenyan counterpart inviting Kaparo to visit Tehran.

Mrs. Hashemi stressed the need for development of parliamentary, political and economic relations between the two countries.

She called for formation of parliamentary friendship group between Tehran and Nairobi.

(Contd on Pg.14)

HAKIM:

U.S. Missile Attacks on Iraq Politically Motivated



Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The attacks by the Iraqi government's troops on northern Iraq are considered a blatant violation of the UN resolutions passed on Iraq, particularly Resolution 688, which prevent the Iraqi regime from repressing its own people, said the head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI), Hojjatoleslam Seyed Mohammad Baqer Hakim here yesterday.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with the *Tehran Times*, Hakim said that the SAIRI strongly condemns such barbaric acts perpetrated by the Iraqi regime.

He further called on the international community to take a firm stand in this regard, adding that the international community and the neighboring countries shoulder a heavy task concerning the Iraqi people, who are exposed to the wide-scale repression of the Iraqi regime.

Asked to comment on the possible solution to the current crisis in Iraq, Hakim reiterated that the problem facing Iraq can not be solved as long as the present Iraqi regime is in power.

Hakim added that the conflict in northern Iraq is actually the discord between the United States and the Iraqi regime, stressing that the innocent Iraqi people have nothing to do with the conflict.

The head of the council further dismissed Saddam Hussein's baseless claims of Iran's interference in northern Iraq. He said, "If the Iraqi regime meant to stop Iran's interference, as it has claimed, it should have launched its military operations in the region where the Iranian forces are stationed."

The Iraqi president knows well that Iran has made no intervention in the northern Iraq, and that its efforts are merely aimed at bringing about a reconciliation between the two Kurdish parties, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), Hakim noted.

Hojjatoleslam Hakim added that Saddam Hussein's goal is to restore its full control over Iraq. He went on to say that, before launching its attacks on Arbil, the

(Contd on Pg.14)

Afghan Women March Against Taleban

KABUL CLAIMS CAPTURING EIGHT TALEBAN POSTS



KABUL — Some 200 Afghan women marched through the streets of Kabul Wednesday to protest against the Taleban, accusing them of violating rights of women.

The marchers, led by the Afghan Women's Islamic Movement (AWIM), delivered a protest note to the United Nations local office.

"(Afghan) women have been faced with gross violations of human rights," said the note, from AWIM chairman Amena Safi Afzali.

The protest march was organized to coincide with the first anniversary of the Taleban's September 1995 capture of the western provincial capital of Herat.

(Contd on Pg.14)

Badamchian on Future President, Political Parties



Tehran Times Service

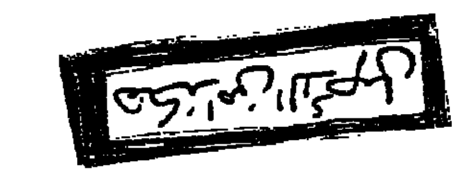
TEHRAN — "Political parties operating under an Islamic system should rise from Islamic principles," said Judiciary Advisor for Social Affairs, Assadollah Badamchian.

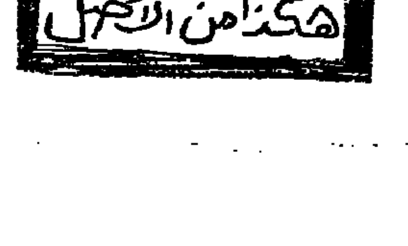
He further said that parties which imitate the West or the East are doomed to fail because these two global blocs contradict the principles of an Islamic system.

With reference to the political parties existing in Iran, Badamchian stressed that they ought to wholeheartedly follow the path laid by the *Imamate*, *Velayat* and the Constitution, and should further be able to introduce practical programs for administering the country.

Asked to comment on Hezbollah-e Majlis and the Assembly of Hezbollah as the two main political groups represented in the Majlis, Badamchian said: "The

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TEHRAN TIMES

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In the Name of Allah

Who hinder (people) from Allah's way and seek to make it crooked, and they are disbelievers in the hereafter.

(HOLY QORAN)(7:45)



U.S. Presence, Saddam's Expansionism, Permanent Sources of Threat to Regional Peace

The ongoing crisis in Iraq, initially caused by the Iraqi military attack on Kurdish areas and followed by U.S. attacks on Iraq, is threatening the regional peace and stability.

The Iraqi attack is a clear witness to the fact that aggression is an inherent part of Iraqi leadership. It also reveals that, if allowed, Saddam will spare no effort to dominate the whole region irrespective of the damage andlosses that an aggression might inflict on his own people or other nations in the region.

A neighboring country, Iran does not intend to intervene in internal affairs of Iraq. At the same time, Tehran does not hesitate to protest Iraq's irresponsible acts which escalate tension in the region.

Saddam Hussein has proved that he will not give up his aggressive policy against his neighbors--Iran, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia--whenever he finds the opportunity. Secondly his efforts to obtain weapons of mass destruction, chemical, biological, and even nuclear weapons, are signs of his future plans to dominate the Middle East. Saddam's brutal oppression of Kurdish people of Halabja and deployment of chemical weapons there which took lives of about 5,000 innocent people will remain a black spot in the history of Saddam's rule. We should not also forget that Saddam Hussein reduced the southern fertile marsh-land of Iraq to a desert only to suppress the Shias.

The Iraqi Baath Party has resorted to force and intimidation either to annex its neighbors or to impose its policies on them. Almost all neighbors of Iraq have borne the brunt of the Baath Party's policies since its inception.

No need to reiterate that the Islamic Republic of Iran categorically condemns the U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of other sovereign, independent states. At the same time Iran is against any move by the ruling junta in Iraq causing human tragedy in that country.

Indeed neither the Iraqi military operation in Kurdistan, nor the presence of the U.S. forces in the region can restore peace and tranquility to the region.

It is time the U.S. realized that its presence in the region was a serious source of tension. History has proven that regional tensions and conflicts can best be settled within a regional framework. Regional countries and Iraq itself are the most appropriate ones to find a durable solution to the Iraqi crisis.

Official: Population Growth Rate in Iran Drops to 1.6%

GORGAN, Mazandaran Province — The successful implementation of family planning programs over the past eight years has served to reduce population growth rate in Iran to 1.6 percent, said the chairman of the country's Family Planning Association on Wednesday.

Malekzadeh added that the rate of population growth in the country stood at 3.2 percent eight years ago.

Educating people on issues related to health care during pregnancy and controlling the growth of population are among the main activities of the association, he said.

According to Dr. Malekzadeh, providing women with health care during pregnency, offering facilities for children during their growth period and giving required information to the newly-married couples are the main objectives of the family planning programs.

Malekzaded termed as encouraging the attention paid by the young couples to the family planning programs. (IRNA)

Iran Reports New Cases of Cease-Fire Violations by Iraq



KHARRAZI

UNITED NATIONS, New York — Iran has reported 21 more cases of cease-fire violations by the Iraqi regime between May 31 and June 27, 1996.

The cases of cease-fire violations were listed in a letter sent by Iran's Permanent Representative to the UN, Kamal Kharrazi to the UN Secretary General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

The letter cited patrolling the Arvand Rud, firing towards Iranian territory, installing mortars, constructing observation posts, and attacking against the Iranian border police as among the cases of violations committed by the Iraqi regime.

At the request of Kharrazi, the letter was circulated as the UN Security Council's document on Tuesday.

According to the letter, on June 5, 1996, Iraqi forces stationed at Abu Abid Sentry Post began firing towards Iranian border post. About 40 bullets hit the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in no man's land.

On June 19, 1996, a number of anti-revolutionary elements tried to carry out two surprise attacks against the Iranian border police in the border area of Shalamcheh. They began firing when their attempts failed and fled into Iraqi territory when confronted with the reaction of the Iranian border police, the letter added. (IRNA)

PUK Dismisses Iran's Involvement in Recent Developments in Iraq

ILAM — Arabic service of the radio of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) monitored here on Wednesday dismissed any Iranian involvement in the recent Developments in northern Iraq.

The radio quoted the PUK leader Jalal Talebani as saying that the allegation of Iraqi officials on possible Iranian involvement in northern Iraq is a mere lie.

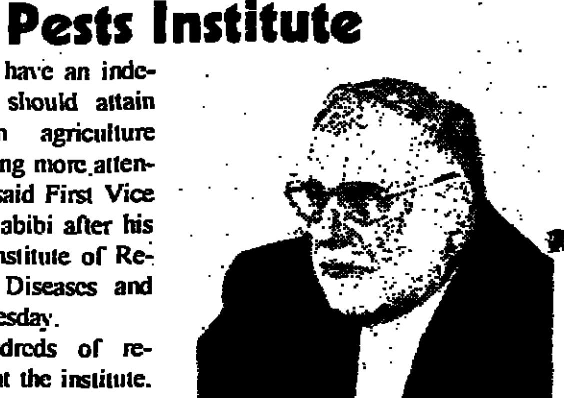
Talebani said, "If Iran was allied with the PUK, then why it did not help us while the Iraqi Army moved to capture Erbil nor Iranian Air Force helped us retain our positions in Erbil."

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz alleged in a recent TV broadcast that Iran has made military interference in northern Iraq. (IRNA)

Habibi Visits Herbal Diseases, Pests Institute

TEHRAN — "To have an independent Iran, we should attain self-sufficiency in agriculture which requires paying more attention to research", said First Vice President Hassan Habibi after his inspection to the Institute of Research on Herbal Diseases and Pests here on Wednesday.

Addressing hundreds of researchers working at the institute, Habibi said, "Now that the country proceeds in the path of development and reconstruction, paying more attention to research activities is a must for achieving a permanent development."



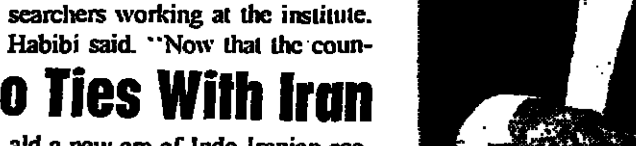
HABIBI

He added that training skilled workforce and interconnecting the country's research centers were among factors which would be effective in streamlining the research sector.

The Iranian official within his three-hour visit to the institute, inspected different sections of the Pesticide and Herbal Diseases Center, botanical museums, insectarium and exhibition.

Researchers at the institute are now busy working on 600 research projects on various agricutlural issues. (IRNA)

India Attaches Great Importance to Ties With Iran



NEW DELHI — India's Foreign Secretary Salman Haider has said New Delhi attaches "great importance" to the expansion of bilateral relations, in all aspects, with Tehran.

This was said by Haider to Iran's visiting Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Oceania Affairs, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, in a meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Stressing the importance of bilateral ties, Haider announced India's readiness for expansion of cooperation in the field of energy, mentioning in particular the gas pipeline project between the two countries.

Expressing his satisfaction over the state of bilateral cooperation, Boroujerdi said the implementation of important projects, such as the ones in the areas of fertilizer, railways and natural gas, will herald a new era of Indo-Iranian economic cooperation.

He said that the growth in trade between the two countries in the past three years indicated the willingness of the Iranian and Indian governments for enhancement of bilateral relations.

The establishment of Irano-Indian Chamber of Commerce which is going to be inaugurated in the near future will further boost bilateral trade, added Boroujerdi.

In Tuesday's meeting, agreements on fighting drug trafficking and other trade and cultural agreements were discussed.

Boroujerdi arrived here Tuesday morning, leading a delegation on a three-day official visit. He was received at the Indira Gandhi International Airport by Salman Haider and other officials. (IRNA)

NAM Culture Ministers Start Meeting in Nigerian Capital

ABUJA — Culture and information ministers of 130 member states of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) started their official meeting here on Tuesday.

Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mostafa Mirsalim is heading the Iranian delegation to the meeting.

Mirsalim told IRNA here that the meeting is to review and approve cooperation in cultural affairs among member states of the Non- Aligned Movement.

He added that access to factual information and resisting the domination and cultural invasion of other countries are among topics to be discussed at the meeting.

The Iranian minister in his inaugural speech on behalf of the Asian countries, said that the existing cordial relations between Asian states has created suitable grounds for further expansion of communications for confronting the news dominance of big powers.

MIRSALIM

Praising the Nigerian government for its efforts in hosting the fifth meeting of NAM information ministers, Mirsalim pointed out that the setting up of an international news center will help NAM member states to provide correct and factual news for Third World countries. (IRNA)

Floods Kill 1, Inflict Rls.1.2b in Damage on Razan

HAMEDAN — Floods over the past couple of days inflicted over Rls.1.2 billion in damage on gardens, farmlands, linking roads, wells and livestock at villages surrounding the provincial city of Razan.

Deputy Governor of Razan Afshar said on Tuesday that one person also lost his life as a result of flood in Poshtjin Village.

Ten houses were destroyed and 50 others sustained damage between 20 and 60 percent in the villages hit by floods.

Afshar said that several relief teams have been dispatched to the affected areas to help the flood-stricken people and reopen the inundated linking routes. (IRNA)

MKO Terrorists Involved in Erbil Onslaught

LONDON — The Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) has revealed that anti-Iran MKO terrorists were used by Iraq in the latest fighting and has accused the U.S. of abandoning the Kurds.

One KDP fighter, quoted by the *Independent* newspaper, reported that about half of the Iraqi units involved in latest Saturday's attack on Erbil belonged to the outlawed Mujahedeen Khalq Organization (MKO) that is based in Iraq.

Baghdad officially claims that all Iraqis are now out of the city but no reference has been made whether the MKO terrorists have withdrawn.

The paper's journalist in Salahuddin also reported KPD leader Masoud Barzani angrily criticizing the U.S. missile attacks on southern Iraq and saying he only asked for Baghdad's support because Washington had abandoned the Kurds.

The missile attacks were "just part of President Clinton's election campaign," Barzani was quoted saying at a press conference at his hilltop headquarters. (IRNA)

Laos Willing to Expand Cooperation With Iran

KUALA LUMPUR — The Laotian Deputy Prime Minister Khamphoai Keoboualapha in a meeting Tuesday with Iranian Accredited Ambassodor to Laos Gholam Reza Yousefi called for expansion of Tehran-Vientiane ties.

He said that his country as one of the potential members of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is willing to further deepen its relations with Iran.

The Iranian ambassador at the end of his mission in Southeast Asia met with the Laotian offical to bid farerwell.

Pointing to the common stances of Iran and Laos regarding many regional issues, Yousefi said that the two counrties are in a position to further deepen their bilateral ties.

The Laotian deputy premier expressed hope that Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati will visit Laos in future. (IRNA)

Rls.10.5bn Spent on Setting Up Power Transmission Lines in Isfahan

TEHRAN — With allocation of Rls.10.5 billion, about 136 kilometer of 20 kilowatt power transmission lines have been set up in Isfahan this year, said head of Public Relations Office of Power Distribution Company on Wednesday.

He added that in this period renovation and development of 106 kilometers of low voltage transmission lines, 18 kilometers of high voltage lines and 73 kilometers of semi high voltage lines have been implemented in the same period. (IRNA)

Iran's Share of World Decorative Stones Market Low Down

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - In spite of having diverse decorative stones mines and the relevant potentials, Iran's share of world decorative stones market, which is estimated to be nearly $20 billion, is less than one percent.

Speaking at a gathering of Iran's granite processing units which was held in Hamedan on Tuesday, Hamid Reza Rahbar, Managing Director of Ahrar Company said the above and added that one the major reasons behind Iran's tiny share of the world decorative stone market is low processing standard of some of the local units.

He termed, high price of current expenditures at the processing units, difficulties in provision of raw materials from foreign countries, unwillingness of banks to invest in the field and charging different tax and duties on the activities of mining sector as other hindrances on the way those who are active in processing decorative stones.

According to a report of the Public Relations Office of Ministry of Mines and Metals, faxed to the *Tehran Times* yesterday, China and India which started to export decorative stones concurrently with Iran, years back, have been successful to become the second and the third largest exporters of decorative stones of the world after Italy.

First Phase of Imam Khomeini Int'l Airport Operational Next Year

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The first phase of Imam Khomeini International Airport will become operational next year, an official at Tehran province's governorate general said here on Tuesday.

Mohammad Reza Rezazadeh said the first phase of the airport project included the northern runway and parallel taxiways along with one entrance and exit terminal, IRNA reported.

He said construction of the control tower and office buildings as well as access roads to Tehran-Saveh and Tehran-Qom highways would be worked out by next year.

He added that Imam Khomeini International Airport, once completed would have the capacity of handling 25 million passengers a year. At present some 7 million passengers annually pass through the Mehrabad airport near Tehran, the biggest airport of the country.

Rezazadeh said over Rls.300 billion were spent on building the airport last year and Rls.240 billion would be spent on the project next year.

He noted that some 70 percent of the the first phase of the airport project has been done so far.

Wellington to Pave Way for Marketing of Iranian Goods

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - New Zealander Ambassador to Tehran John Daniel Richard conferred with Deputy Head of the Foreign Commission of Majlis Mohammad-Javad Larijani here on Tuesday.

Calling as "permanent and trustworthy" ties between Tehran and Wellington, Richard said that Wellington bonds with Tehran are actually the most extensive relations of his country with regional countries, IRNA reported.

Richard said that given the considerable expansion of Iran's ties with its neighbor as well as the important role of Iran in the region, Wellington attaches further significance to its ties with Tehran.

He also said there was no restriction in the area of commercial transactions and economic cooperation with Tehran and that Wellington would try to pave the ground for marketing of Iranian goods in New Zealand.

The New Zealand diplomat also expressed his willingness to be informed on Iran's stands regarding the Middle East, Iran relations with Europe and regional cooperation of the Caspian Sea littoral states.

On the Middle East issue, Larijani explained that Iran's principled stance vis-a-vis the Middle East was that the Palestinians as a nation should enjoy their natural rights. "This is their right and not something to be given as alms by Tel Aviv politicians", he added.

Considering the great importance of the basic civil rights of nations, all agree on this point that nations may reserve the right of resorting to all available means to ensure their legitimate rights, Larijani noted. The peaceful means are certainly preferable, Larijani said, but when this manner of reaction proves ineffective, it is the right of nations to resort to other available means to gain their freedom.

More on the issue, Larijani said that there was no significant contrast between Rabin's and Netanyahu's administrations, because none of them had honored Palestinian nation's rights and that it was a grave blunder committed by the American and Western policy makers to support such moves under the pretext of peace.

As for regional cooperation among the Caspian Sea littoral states, Larijani stressed natural richness and great strategic importance of the sea and noted that naturally the littoral countries should cooperate to ensure optimum use of its resources.

South Asian University Graduates Start Seminar

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The 7th international gathering of the Islamic Association of Graduates from South Asian Universities opened its sessions here Wednesday.

Addressing the opening session of the seminar, Iranian Ambassador to Japan Manouchehr Mottaki elaborated on the factors of development and said that the low per capita income of residents of the region, small capital accumulation and unemployment are among the main factors that hinder development.

He compared the usual concept of development with that accepted by Islam and said that under an Islamic system national development is given due attention in the the context of social justice and religious values.

The seminar's Secretary General, Nabizadeh, said that the two-day seminar aims to explore the concepts of social justice and development and their application.

He further expressed the association's readiness and that of the members to do their utmost to achieve a nationally sustained development under the able leadership of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei.

Over 710,000 Tons of Mobarakeh Steel Products Exported

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The Mobarakeh Steel Complex, with its variety of products, has been consistently meeting local demand as well as exporting a portion of its output to countries in Africa, Asia and Europe.

An official at the National Iranian Steel Company (NISC) in an interview with the Farsi-language daily *Iran*, printed Tuesday, said the complex has recently started producing the type of steel that was needed in building heavy-duty ocean liners.

He reported that the complex was manufacturing 10 different products in conformity with ISO 9002 standards, adding with the implementation of the expansion project, Mobarakeh's annual output would hit six million tons.

Targets in the current year, started March 20, include the production of 2.2 million tons of casting steel, two million tons of hot rolled steel and 610,000 tons of cold rolled steel.

The official pointed out that in the first quarter of this year, Mobarakeh's steel bar output rose by 78 percent, hot sheet by 45.5 percent and cold sheet by 24.7 percent, compared to the same period last year.

Since the complex went on stream in 1993 up to July 1996, its production for local consumption amounted to over 3.55 million tons while exports reached some 710,000 tons.

ECO Telecom Cooperation Helps Safeguard National, Religious Culture

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - A Turkish official believes that cooperation among member states of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in the field of telecommunications can serve as a ground for safeguarding their national and religious identity and culture.

Director General of the Turkish telecommunications Company Irfan Erturk added the member countries have common religion and culture and most of them share borders, IRNA reported.

He added that upgrading the technical and telecommunications potentials of Islamic countries, members of ECO, means giving greater strength to muslims in the world.

Describing Iran's achievements in the field of telecommunications as remarkable, he said Pakistan, Turkey and Iran as founding members of ECO can play a key role in rendering technical and engineering services to other countries.

Erturk is currently here to take part in the 2-day Nineth Meeting of Directors General of Telecommunications Companies of ECO member countries which ended here tuesday.

Mazandaran's Potentialities for Economic Development Outlined

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The northern Caspian Sea province of Mazandaran would be able to meet the country's hard currency needs if the province is provided with proper economic infrastructures.

Director General of the provincial industries department Mohammad- Javad Negahban said here Tuesday that despite existence of vast forests in Mazandaran, entrepreneurs are mostly willing to invest in forest-related industries, IRNA reported.

Negahban said that government had established a wood and paper mill with the capacity of 175,000 tons a year in the province.

He predicted that the mill would start operation by the year end on March 20, 1997 to run with a capacity of producing 90,000 tons of paper for newspapers and 85,000 tons of graphic.

Investments in such areas as manufacture of oil platforms and ship buidling have shown favourable growth and to this end a research center in the province has managed to design a kind of motor launches than can be easily assembled and vice versa for transport to any part of the country.

He put the number of manufacturing units put into operation in Mazandaran province last year (1995-1996) at 294, adding that there are 5,000 industrial units operating in the province at present.

Since the collapse of the former Soviet Union, Mazandaran's exports to the newly independent republics have increased, he said adding that foodstuff, textiles and cellulosic products are exported from the province to those republics.

Russian Company Gives $5,000 to Support Stranded Ship

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The Russian company, whose dry-argo ship has been stranded in Spain for about two months, has contributed 5,000 dollars to support the craft and its crew.

The ship, Vladimir Ilyich, was detained in the Spanish port of Tarragona about two months ago after its owner, the Baltic Sea Shipping Line, had failed to pay debts which had reached $125,000.

On Friday, the local branch of the International Committee of the Red Cross delivered food supplies for the crew.

96 Expo Draws 120 Energy Firms in Moscow

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The second international exposition of energy equipment and technologies, Energoprogress- 96, opened in Moscow's Sokolniki Exhibition Center on Monday.

The exposition, timed to the 40th anniversary of Russia's unified energy system (Yees Rossii), has drawn over 120 local and foreign firms, including the Yees Rossii energy monopoly and Rybinskiye Motoy and NPO Avtomatika, both major equipment suppliers of the national power engineering sector.

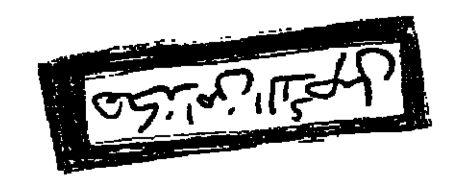
Foreign participants include Siemens, Nokia, and ABB.

On display are their latest products — energy-saving equipment, computer-controlled management systems for electric power plants, and state-of-the-art technologies of electric energy production.

The electric power engineering is one of the industry's branches which constitute the material basis of technical progress and ensure the normal functioning of all sectors of the society, Yees President Anatoly Dyakov said on Sunday, as quoted by IRNA-Itar-Tass.

In his words, Russia is still one of the world's major producers and exporters of electric energy, although its production has dropped over recent years and fewer power plants are put into operation each year.

Yees Rossii, the Yediny Elektroenergeticheskiy Kompleks (Unified Electric Energy Complex) corporation, and the informenergo joint-stock company are the organizers of the exhibition, which will be functioning until September 6.



Physical Training Programs



After the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran ended in 1988 government policy decided to hand over to the private sector the operation and management of sports facilities and installations. In line with this policy, the construction and development of sports facilities and installations were also turned over to the private sector. In this way, it was predicted that sports would find its relevance in the people's social and economic activities and be given the importance it deserves in everyday life.

Sports Profile:

Number of athletes:

The number of athletes under the umbrella of sports federations and delegations shows a 930 percent growth from 168,000 in 1979 to 1,731,000 in 1985.

Number of sports complexes:

The number of covered sports complexes registered a 361 percent increase—from 470 in 1979 to 2,168 in 1996.

The number of open sports complexes rose by 380 percent—from 529 in 1979 to 2,539 in 1995.

In addition, since the culmination of the Islamic Revolution some 18 sports complexes have been constructed monthly, with the number of installed sports halls in the said complexes going up 83 percent—from 4,200 in 1979 to 7,700 this year.

Statistics also reveal that since the culmination of the Islamic Revolution some 3,500 sports halls have been constructed representing an average of 17 halls for every month during the period covered.

Activities of Sports Federations:

The most important activities of sports federations involve the search for sports talents and the adoption of certain strategies to help achieve prominence in the field of sports.

Holding educational and training courses for referees and holding sports competitions are among the other tasks of federations.

Sports federations have increased from 23 in 1979 to 337 this year, up by 160 percent.

The use of more Iranian coaches is one of the more important changes in sports activities in the post-revolution era.

The number of Iranian coaches rose to 35,000 this year from 2,700 in 1979. The number of Iranian referees have also increased from 2,800 in 1979 to 20,500 this year.

Sports in Educational Institutions:

Before the establishment of the Islamic Republic, due to lack of sports groups in educational institutions, sports programs in schools were quite unorganized and largely unplanned.

The extent and variety of sports exercises were directly linked to the interests of teachers and their personal motivation.

With the culmination of the Islamic Revolution, the desire to increase participation and consolidate the sports activities of the country's population led to the formation of a number of sports clubs in educational institutions.

Physical education teachers rose to 20,600 this year from 6,800 in 1979, or a 203 percent rise.

The number of school sports clubs have increased from 1,660 in 1983 to 6,750 this year, or a 307 percent rise, and the number of sports club members have also increased from 56,980 in 1983 to 384,900 this year.

At present the number of university athletes is around 344,000, a number predicted to rise in the coming years.

Womens Sports:

During the pre-revolution era there were no special women's sports groups and the sports activities of women were conducted jointly with those of men's federations.

After the culmination of the Islamic Revolution and due to the cultural requirements of the Islamic Republic the necessity for putting up separate women's federations was felt. In 1982 women's sports committees were established in several fields which then embarked on their separate sports activities within the cultural framework of the Islamic Republic.

In line with the development of separate sports federations for both sexes, women's sports delegations were formed in the different provinces to organize female sports.

The number of female athletes soared to 647,000 this year from 104,000 in 1983.

Female athletes attend special courses for referees and coaches conducted by sports professionals. In the pre-revolution era such courses were attended and conducted merely by men.

Credits Allocated for Sports Activities:

Total credits allocated for physical training and youth affairs in 1979 stood at Rls. 13.3 billion, about Rls. 6.1 billion of which was allocated for the implementation of development projects and Rls. 7.2 billion for current and day to day activities.

In comparison, this year's total credits allocated to the sports and physical training sector amounts to Rls. 392.7 million, which shows an increase of 2,853 percent.

Of total credits allocated to the sports sector this year some Rls. 117.7 has been allocated for current affairs and Rls. 275 billion to implementing development projects, both figures showing an increase of 1,535 and 4,408 percent, respectively, compared with those in 1979.

Telecommunications Industry

Before 1978, the telecommunications industry was confined to the production of electro-mechanical switches (EMD), telephone switches and a limited number of telecommunications apparatus. But all this changed in 1978. The telecommunications industry underwent a revolution. This transformation saw a significant change in 1989. It was in this year that special attention was given to all the latest technological advances in the telecommunications field, specially in digital technology.

In fact, production of digital instruments started on a large scale. Among the production achievements, the following can be mentioned:

☑ 4 million low and high capacity digital switch ports.

☑ 4.5 million channels of different digital max.

☑ More than 20 million kilometers of copper wires.

☑ Approximately 6,200 kilometers of different optical wires.

Statistics on the Activities of Telecommunications in the First Five-Year Plan

Overall Goal	Unit	Post-Revolution (End of 1994)	Second Five-Year Plan (1994-1999)	Forecast till 1999
1. Rural Telephones:				
Total connections	Number	431900	3022000	8331900
Public telephones	Unit	36088	38300	73593
Number of public telephones for every 1,000 numbers	Unit	8.45	8.93	8.93
Connections	Unit	5579	3600	9280
Long distance public telephones	Unit	1.29	1.11	1.11
Numbers of international public telephones for every 1,000 numbers	Unit	7.09	12.22	12.22
Connections	Numbers	953962	—	—
Ratio of influence of telephones				
Sales of receipts				
2. Long Distance Telephone Exchanges				
(Increase of) inter-city hubs	Hub	71922	111000	195973
Number of inter-city hubs for every 100 connected telephones	Hub	1.66	2.35	2.45
(Increase of) connections of routing hubs	Hub	133097	255000	323570
Number of routing hubs for every 100 connected hubs	Hub	3.36	5.08	5.08
Rural areas equipped with telecommunications	Rural	8731	7650	15391
Number of rural areas connected to network	Rural	520	1500	2182
Connecting with special offices	Place	385	500	600
3. International Communication				
(Increase of) international hubs	Hub	3185	8500	12959
Number of international hubs for every 1,000 of connected numbers	Hub	7.27	15.53	15.53
4. New telecommunication services				
Number of mobiles	Number	9200	76300	86300
Number of cities connected with mobiles	Urban	1	10	12
Number of pagers	Number	3378	15000	18200
Setting up data transmission networks	Line	200	11500	12700
Setting up data transmissions (urban)	Urban	1	10	15
Number of telex subscriptions	Number	8973	15	10302

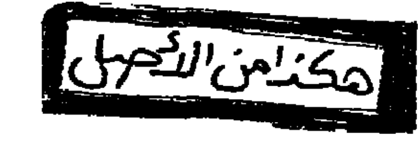
"Communications"

Utilization of high technology, the specialists in the Islamic Republic of Iran have made rapid strides in the field of communications.



• A look at the telecommunications services in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Type of activity	Before Revolution	Now	Growth rate by percentage
Number of inter-city automatic switching Channels	5,995	50,900	749.00
Number of microwave channels	14,214	105,342	641.10
Number of international channels	429	2,420	464.10
Number of cities with international connections	18	104	477.80



Tyson: I'm Better but No Match for Younger Self

LAS VEGAS, Nevada — Heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson considers himself a better fighter than when he unified the title in 1987, but said even he would be unable to defeat his younger self.

"I'm a better fighter now than I was back then, but I couldn't beat that guy," Tyson said. "That guy was awesome. He was a wild man. My lifestyle now is totally different. That is what makes me a better fighter."

World Boxing Council champion Tyson faces World Boxing Association champion Bruce Seldon here Saturday in the first meeting of heavyweight kings since Tyson beat Tony Tucker nine years ago to unify the titles.

Only the WBA crown is at stake. Britain's Lennox Lewis has a court order mandating he be the next wbc title challenger.

Tyson (44-1, 38 knockouts) is an overwhelming favorite to beat Seldon (33-8, 29 knockouts), but he shrugs off such notions.

"I don't want to be put in the position where I think I am invincible like I did when I was younger," Tyson said. "I was totally out of control.

Tyson went through a turmoil-filled marriage and divorce, lost his title in 1990 to unheralded Buster Douglas and spent three years in prison for the rape of a beauty pageant contestant.

By comparison, Seldon has served four years in prison for grand larceny and promoter Don King has served four years in connection with the 1966 beating death of a former employee.

Tyson was released 18 months ago and has won his three fights since, receiving 65 million dollars for 17 minutes of work over the past 13 months. Tyson was to have fought Seldon in July but Tyson caught bronchitis.

"I have been through a great deal," Tyson said. "You can't expect somebody to deal with in a year what it took three years to live.

"Look at my situation. Even though I allowed other people to contribute to it, I have to carry the weight of a fool. I didn't create this image alone. But I have to carry it alone."

Tyson talks of himself as two different people in his days before and after prison, which he said taught him a great deal about the world outside his once-structured lifestyle.

"I like that guy I was before I lent to prison," Tyson said. "The guy was just foolish. Hell of a guy. But that guy can't survive in this world now. He wasn't tough enough."

Tyson has a steady girlfriend, Monica Turner, who bore him a daughter, Rayna, on Valentine's Day this year. Tyson has settled down. But he refused to call himself happy, even saying he doubts he can ever feel that way.

"I'm just not a happy man by nature," Tyson said. "I have been through some ordeals in life. I am suspicious. I have enjoyed some moments, but I am prepared for anything every time. I'm in love with a woman, but I truly don't believe anyone can make me happy. I have to deal with that myself." (AFP)

Seles Back in Semifinals at Open

NEW YORK — For a set-and-a-half, Monica Seles was piling up points on Amanda Coetzer at the U.S. Open, working on what resembled a perfect tennis match.

And then, suddenly, her game turned distinctly ordinary.

Seles won 6-0, 6-3 to reach the semifinals of the Open, but was troubled by the collapse in concentration that gave Coetzer three games.

"I felt I played really well in the first and beginning of the second," Seles said. "Then my concentration dropped and I let her back in."

Not in far enough to threaten Seles. Just in far enough to annoy her.

"Throughout the tournament, I always play one bad set and my opponents take advantage of that," she said. "I have to focus on every set.

"I think for me the thing is when I take charge of the points, I'm OK. That's one of the reasons I got in trouble in the second set, because I started not being aggressive, started pushing the ball back. They start hitting some winners, get their confidence and then you're in trouble."

To say Seles was in trouble against Coetzer would be overstating the issue. The match lasted 48 minutes. Seles won 78 percent of her first serves compared to 45 percent for Coetzer. Seles converted four of five break point chances. Coetzer never had a break point opportunity.

"I was pretty lucky to finish it off at 6-3," Seles said. "It was pretty easy until 3-love (in the second set). Then after that, it was very close. It could have gone either way, could have been four- or five-all."

This is a wounded Seles, still not sure she can regain the dominance she enjoyed before the bizarre stabbing incident in 1993 that took 2 1-2 years away from her career.

She is not the confident player she once was. Mention a possible final with Steffi Graf and she hesitates.

"I don't know," she said. "Steffi has been playing some great tennis. She's serving very well, everything else. She's a tough player.

"I really hate to think about that because you never know if that's going to happen. So I don't know. I'd better not think about that."

The old Seles, winner of eight Grand Slams, would have relished that potential matchup. The new one approaches it warily.

"I think the run I was on before the stabbing happened was unbelievable," she said. "The way it was stopped and everything, it's hard for me to go back, to think mentally how I felt. It's very difficult for me to accept some things.

"I try not to think about that at all, just take one day at a time, not think about what's passed because that's passed, where I was, good or bad, I can't add to that or delete anything from that part of my life." (AP)



FLUSHING MEADOWS, NY, United States (September 3): Stefan Edberg of Sweden looks at his racket after being hit in the head by Tim Henman of Great Britain during the first set of their match at the U.S. Open in Flushing Meadows. Edberg lost the set 6-7.

(AFP PHOTO)

Cantona Injury Helps United's European Planning

MANCHESTER, England — Eric Cantona's probable absence from Manchester United's lineup for the English premiership game at Derby on Wednesday night could solve a problem for Alex Ferguson.

The Old Trafford manager was planning to play his side for next week's champions league clash with Juventus in advance of the trip to Italy.

That would have meant leaving out Cantona, who is suspended for the opening game.

"Eric's got a thigh strain and was having treatment before the Blackburn game. So, he's a little bit doubtful. Whether I was thinking of leaving him out or not, I may be forced to leave him out anyway," Ferguson said.

Andy Cole looks likely to be on the bench for the first time this season after recovering from pneumonia. Nicky Butt will return in midfield after missing the Blackburn game.

Derby is hoping the return of Dean Sturridge can help conjure up a shock result.

The striker slammed two goals past leeds on the opening day of the season but missed Derby's last outing at Aston Villa with a hamstring strain.

Newcastle manager Kevin Keegan has called for his men to stand up and be counted in the northeast Derby with Sunderland at Roker Park after two defeats in their first three games.

"It wouldn't make any difference if we had been playing fantastically and gone to Sunderland with a 100 percent record," Keegan said.

"It would still have been a difficult game for us. But I'm looking to my players to stand up and be counted.

"It doesn't matter if you have all the talent in the world if you don't work hard and battle."

Wales and Sunderland defender Andy Melville said: "We've started OK and they are not having the best of times so I guess you could say we're looking forward to it.

"We've got to keep doing what we've done in the first three games but that will be easier said than done.

"We'll try to treat it like it's just another game but it's the one the supporters wants us to win more than any other in the season."

England duo Robbie Fowler and Steve McManaman have trained for the first time in ten days but still have not convinced Liverpool manager Roy Evans they are completely over their back injuries.

Czech star Patrik Berger is on standby to fill in against Coventry if either of the injured stars fail their late fitness checks.

Berger, who impressed on the left hand side of midfield for the Czech Republic in Euro 96, has told Evans that he enjoys playing in a striker's role and underlined his scoring potential with a goal for the reserves at the weekend.

Evans said, "We see Patrik playing in the middle but he does strike a ball well." (AFP)

Understanding Kung Fu as Described by a Master

(Part 5)

What Is Kung Fu?

By Ja'far Qassempour Jahangir

The yellow mythical emperor appeared two times in ancient China's boxing. It is believed that Hee-Wang-Tee originates from a revolutionary system in fighting strategy as well as a very effective hand to hand conflict named Chee-Oo-Tee which gave them some trainings how to use their weapons and increase their strength. It is worth mentioning that the general public can hardly handle such trainings.

The fight in this era of China's period from viewpoint of nobility and reign has a unique advantage. The chariots marshalled instead of infantry soldiers, the archers regularly shot their arrows in turn, and two unequal warriors were not allowed to fight.

The other principles of Hee-Wang-Tee dealing with fighting skills were the main fields of this occupation.

The secluded students of 5th century (A.D.) referred to a series of medical exercises and breathing skills planned for keeping their bodies healthy, tranquil and alert. The trainings were even practiced before the yellow emperor's era.

Michael Mink in his book, Knowledge of Kung Fu, claims that these exercises known as kung fu are properly made clear by certain legends in China's medical history.

It is quoted that the yellow emperor has gathered together a number of physicians to achieve his objectives on healing general diseases and revealing the worth of physical exercises.

Kung fu oversteps the medical bases of fighting sports dated back to thousands of years. It is time to tell about the first registered story of fighting skills discovered in Chinese classical writings of Chao's dynasty.

All the books on lyric poems and festivals refer to fighting skills. Certainly, none of them has explained anything about minor points. For instance, Shee-Ching's poems say that one had a lower rank in army if knew nothing about boxing. Also, there are

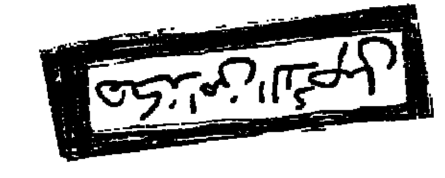


some books on annual festivals which give some descriptions regarding wrestling, boxing, shooting and fencing.

Undoubtedly, Confucius (479-551 A.D.), the great philosopher, whose writings and trainings have had a deep effect on China's sports life and morale principles over 2000 years, has been completely familiar with fighting skills. He taught that as one should be a master in literary arts, one also should be a master in fighting skills. In addition to learning music, writing, morale principles and mathematics, his students were obliged to learn how to shoot and drive a chariot. It is also said that he himself was a master in self-defense skills and taught them to his students.

Laotzo Pirtrolli, contemporary with Confucius, says about Chinese wisdom and principles in a series of poems in his book 'Maoti Ching'. He also had an influential role in philosophy that kung fu was based on. The literary translation of Taoti Ching, ranked after Bible from translation point of view, is strength, method and manner.

The more complete spiritual meaning which reflects the essence of Laotzo's trainings putting great stress on the clearance of what exists now, what may happen in future and what is perceptible in order to make us control what we look for.



UNCA Confers Honorary Membership on Iftikhar Ali

IFTIKHAR ALI

TEHRAN — For outstanding service to the United Nations Correspondents Association (UNCA), honorary life membership was recently conferred on Iftikhar Ali, Information Officer of the UN Information Center here.

Mr. Ali, in a letter dated July 12, 1996 informing him of the decision, was conferred the honor in recognition of his "long and outstanding service to the UNCA" and for his "distinguished conduct as a professional journalist at UN Headquarters over a period of 22 years (1971-93)."

Iftikhar Ali's life membership to the illustrious association has placed him on the list of the 20 journalists who have been admitted in the past half century.

The decision was made by the UNCA Executive Committee and adopted unanimously at a meeting of the General Membership of the association.

Other honorary life members of the UNCA are Sven Ahman, Krishnamachari Balaraman, Stanley Burke, Francis W. Carpenter, Earl V. Foell, Milton B. Freudenheim, Michael Fry, Thomas J. Hamilton, Max Harrelson, John W. Heffernan, Joseph P. Lash, Bruce W. Munn, William N. Oatis, Chakravarti Baghavan, John G. Rogers, Paul F. Sanders, Rudolf Stajduhar, Arne Thopen and Reinhard M. Sorge.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

HAKIM...

regime holding power in Baghdad waged several attacks on the Iraq's southern region.

These attacks started on July 2 and ended only last Tuesday. The Iraqi regime, he added, is still massing a large number of troops in the south to launch new offensives on the region.

The cause of these attacks were Saddam Hussein's fearing that the implementation of the UN Resolution 986, under the circumstances, may have negative impacts on his regime, and that it may prompt the Iraqi people to rise against the Iraqi government, he said.

Hakim reiterated that the Iraqi president aims to liquidate all opposition figures in order to establish its hegemony over the country before admitting the UN observers to the area.

He averred that during the recent attacks, the Iraqi regime conducted wide-scale executions in Arbil killing some 600 innocent people, including 300 Arab Shia refugees.

The regime tried to benefit from the political changes in Turkey, Jordan and Saudi Arabia and the split in the ranks of the coalition states, and therefore, it launched its attacks at this juncture, the hojjatoleslam noted.

As regards the U.S. meddling in the region and its recent missile attacks on Iraq, Hojjatoleslam Hakim said that the U.S. attacks are undoubtedly linked with Clinton's presidential campaign, adding that the Clinton administration, through such military operations, seeks to gain the support of democrats in the forthcoming elections .

The United States is furthering its own interests and is by no means caring about the Iraqi people, the hojjatoleslam concluded.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

U.S. ...

Iraq immediately rejected the new air exclusion zone declared by U.S. President Bill Clinton and vowed to resist Washington "tooth and nail."

The Iraqi Army said one person was killed and seven wounded in the strike, without saying whether they were soldiers or civilians. It said five soldiers died and 19 people including civilians were injured in Tuesday's attack.

The United States, backed by Britain, expanded the no-fly zone in southern Iraq from the 32nd parallel northwards to the 33rd parallel on Wednesday, bringing it to within 45 kilometers (27 miles) of Baghdad.

But France, the third ally which has helped patrol the no-fly zone since the end of the 1991 Persian Gulf war, withheld its support Wednesday.

Asked if France would take part in policing the new zone, Foreign Ministry spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt said the extension was an "American decision," adding: "We are studying the implications."

Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, speaking during a visit to Liechtenstein, warned the United States meanwhile of possible "catastrophic consequences" if it continued raids in Iraq.

President Saddam Hussein chaired a meeting of his air defense forces and army leadership after Wednesday's attack, the official Iraqi news agency said without releasing details on the talks.

Saddam said after the first U.S. attack on Tuesday he would no longer respect the no-fly zones in both the south and the north of the country and ordered his army to shoot down any allied planes entering Iraqi airspace.

After Wednesday's extension, an Iraqi official said: "We reject the new line like the old ones. We are going to resist every attempt to violate our airspace, our decision is clear."

The U.S. strikes came in retaliation for an Iraqi military move over the weekend into a safe haven for Kurds in northern Iraq where the United States and its allies are enforcing a no-fly zone above the 36th parallel.

Air raid sirens sounded in Baghdad as the second attack got underway at dawn and blared the all-clear signal less than an hour later.

Although Iraq said Tuesday it had pulled all its troops out of the Kurdish "capital" Arbil, aid workers said Saddam's intelligence agents were sweeping the city and that Iraqi tanks were poised just outside.

The official newspaper *Babel*, run by Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday, proclaimed Wednesday, that Baghdad would do everything it could to fight the "American monster" and ignore the no-fly zones.

"We are going to fight tooth and nail to defend our sovereignty, our unity, our dignity, our bread, our water and our skies," it said. "There's no longer Iraqi territory forbidden to us in the north or the south."

The United States is also putting the brakes on a UN oil-for-food deal that would have allowed Baghdad to begin selling oil on the international market to pay for humanitarian supplies.

The second missile attack on Iraq in as many days drew immediate support from Britain, the only member of the UN Security Council to give unqualified backing to the initial strike.

But France, another member, expressed "concern, while China warned the United States against taking further action against Iraq. Russia earlier suggested that the strikes were an election ploy by Clinton.

Arab countries, including Egypt and Syria which took part in the U.S.-led Persian Gulf war coalition against Saddam, criticized Clinton's tactics which they said could lead to an escalation in the region.

Meanwhile the Iraqi Army on Wednesday resumed shelling of the Kurdish town of Chemchemal in northern Iraq and continued to deploy tanks outside Arbil, a Kurdish group said.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) said Iraqi tanks and heavy artillery shelled Chemchemal as well as the road linking the town with the PUK-stronghold of Sulaymaniyah near the Iranian border.

The PUK statement, received by AFP in Nicosia, added that around 100 Iraqi tanks were still deployed around the main Iraqi Kurdistan city of Arbil on Wednesday.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

ISRAELI...

Suissa said he had asked community leaders on the heights to submit an inventory of all empty municipal lands to his ministry so it can draw up plans to build 10,000 new apartment units.

Suissa, from the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party, insisted that Israel must pursue the settlement of the Golan despite Syrian demands for the return of the plateau in exchange for peace with the Zionist state.

"There is no reason for our measures to endanger the political process, we must not halt settlement activity on the Golan," which overlooks northern Israel, he said.

Some 13,000 Israelis have moved to the Golan Heights since 1967 and the recent election of a right-wing government under Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has given a boost to settler movements seeking to increase their numbers.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

AT LEAST...

It is expecting more ballot papers by the end of the week which will be sent on to Sarajevo, he added.

Voting in Germany, where 128,000 Bosnian refugees were registered, began on August 28 and closed at midnight Tuesday.

Germany has around 320,000 Bosnian refugees, half of the 640,000 who have registered with the OSCE to vote abroad in advance of the elections in Bosnia on September 14.

The OSCE's Bosnia mission chief Robert Frowick predicted that the September 14 vote would be "reasonably democratic under the circumstances" and in "the Balkans style."

Speaking in Brussels after a meeting of the NATO council, he said the poll would not be like those in a truly democratic country, but the important thing was to "drive the process toward this goal."

NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana meanwhile said that if the municipal level of the elections — which have been postponed because of irregularities — were delayed until after the December 20 deadline for NATO peacekeepers to pull out, NATO would decide then if it should maintain troops on the ground to ensure security.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

PRESIDENT...

Mrs. Hashemi said the crises in the African continent should be resolved through diplomatic channels and offered Iranian readiness to mediate in tensions among Rwanda, Somalia and Sudan.

Iran's President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani here on Tuesday inspected the jetty installations at the Kenyan port city of Mombasa on the Indian Ocean.

Rafsanjani also toured different parts of Mombasa and became acquainted with the abilities and the work of personnels of the trade units of the 17th century historical port.

Earlier in the day, the Iranian president inspected an oil refinery here, 500 km. north of the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.

During Rafsanjani's visit, the head of the oil refinery while presenting him a brief report about the refinery, called on the Islamic Republic of Iran to help modernize the refinery.

Iranian and Kenyan ministers of foreign affairs, industries and commerce as well as deputies of oil ministers of the two countries accompanied Iran's president during his visit to the Mombasa's trade and oil units.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

BADAMCHIAN...

minority group which entered the Fifth Majlis under the name of Kargozaran-e Sazandegi changed its name to Assembly of Hezbollah when it saw that the majority of parliamentarians introduced themselves as Hezbollah."

Badamchian said that members of the Kargozaran-e Sazandegi have to date been unable to find a distinguished name for their group.

As for the connection of Kargozaran to the House of Labor, Badamchian underlined that there is no link between the two groups.

He said that members of Kargozaran and the House of Labor hold different views on various issues and have actually different identities.

He stressed that the House of Labor is bound to lose the support of the country's workers if it follows the programs and views of Kargozaran and, conversely, that Kargozaran will lose its supporters if it follows the views espoused by the House of Labor.

Touching on the constructive efforts of President Hashemi Rafsanjani, Badamchian pointed out that the country's non-oil exports reached $4.5 billion in the years under President Rafsanjani, but dipped to $3.4 billion in 1995 because of decisions taken by some of his cabinet ministers.

"President Hashemi Rafsanjani is determined to reduce prices but is hampered by some of his ministers who are not aware of the people's problems and the reality of social injustice," he said.

Badamchian hinted at other roadblocks to the smooth sailing of President Rafsanjani's policy arising from cabinet ministers and said that the president should ask his ministers to coordinate their policies with him.

As for the characteristics of the next president, Badamchian said that the country should not be run by a non-revolutionary person.

"The president of a revolutionary nation should be a revolutionary person whose competence has been tested," he said adding that the next president should be the president of people and not the president of a particular group or party.

People today are aware of different political groups espousing different ideas, and who actively lobby and propagate their ideas, opposing the idea of having a guardian.

He stressed that introducing candidates for the president to the electorate is a divine task provided they work within the framework of the law.

"Presidential candidates should not fight each other for the sake of their ambitions. If one candidate feels that another candidate is more deserving of the position he must withdraw honorably," he said.

The next president should be from within the country's Ulema (Rouhaniat); otherwise, the Ulema will not easily cooperate with him, Badamchian concluded.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

AFGHAN...

In Herat, as in other provinces under Taleban control, Taleban militia has reportedly closed girls' schools and banned women - with the exception of some medical and health workers - from public workplaces.

The protest letter, addressed to UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali demanded the UN officially condemn the Taleban for alleged violations of women's rights, particularly in Herat.

It also demanded the UN revive education for women in areas under Taleban control and ban foreign interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs.

In Afghanistan - with the exception of major provincial centers like Herat and Kabul - women have traditionally led lives excluded from ordinary public activities taken for granted in the West.

Afghanistan's powerful Taleban faction Wednesday said it would welcome former King Zahir Shah playing a role in the establishment of Islamic law and peace in the war-ravaged country.

"We invite not only Zahir Shah but also other Afghan personalities living in Europe to return and help establish peace and Islamic order in Afghanistan," said a Taleban leader, Amir Khan Muttaqi.

Muttaqi told AFP the former king and all his family members "are welcome to visit Taleban-held areas in Afghanistan."

The Islamic militia, which emerged in November 1994, controls half of Afghanistan. It has been besieging Kabul for almost 10 months in a bid to topple President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

"Peace, justice and order prevail in our areas because we have introduced a system of governance based on Islamic principles," said Muttaqi, who is in charge of the information wing of the Islamic militia.

Muttaqi did not spell out what specific role or position Taleban leadership had in mind for the ex-king in case he returned to Afghanistan.

The Zahir Shah option was revived by U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher who said last week during a visit here that peace could be quickly restored in Afghanistan under an administration led by the former king.

The Republican congressman said be would brief the former monarch living in Rome about his talks with Pakistani officials and representatives of Afghan factions.

Following Rohrabacher's statement, a spokesman of the Pakistani Foreign Office said Islamabad was not "averse" to the idea of return of Zahir Shah to power in Afghanistan if it would bring peace to the country.

The proposal has been put forward in the past by various quarters but was strongly opposed then by most Afghan Mujahedeen factions.

Zahir Shah has been living in exile in Rome since 1973 when he was overthrown by his cousin Sardar Daud, leading to capture of power by communists and invasion of the country by the Soviet Union in December 1979.

The Soviet Army withdrew in 1989, defeated by Afghan Mujahedeen backed by the United States, European and Muslim countries with massive arms supplies and financial support.

Afghan Mujahedeen took over Kabul in April 1992 at the fall of the last communist government, triggering a bloody factional war that has claimed thousands of lives.

Afghan government forces captured eight rival Taleban Islamic militia posts in two days of clashes south of Kabul, the Defense Ministry said.

The conflict eased after fighting between pro-Kabul factions and the Taleban on Monday and Tuesday, Defense Ministry spokesman Ghaffar Rashidi said.

He told journalists eight Taleban posts and an unspecified number of prisoners had been captured. A military official said two rocket launchers and ammunition dumps were also destroyed.

Residents said rockets were fired into south Kabul on Tuesday night and Wednesday injuring seven civilians.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 6)

AIRPLANR....

555 passengers if it had first class, business class and economy class -- or 800 people if they all had economy class seats.

With typical air show rhetoric, Airbus claimed its airplane, intended to take off by 2003, will "leapfrog today's ageing Boeing 747."

(AP)



WEATHER

The I.R. of Iran Meteorological Organization announced today's weather as follows:

Forecast for Tehran: Max. temp. 34°C, Min. temp. 23°C

Partly cloudy with scattered showers

Warmest Point:
Abadan 46°C

Coldest Point:
Ardebil 8°C

Some cities of the world

Cities	Max. °C	Cities	Max. °C
Riyadh	43	Vienna	24
Istanbul	26	Moscow	26
Rome	27	Madrid	23
Athens	29	Ahu Dhabi	38
London	20	Karachi	31
Paris	23	New Delhi	29
Frankfurt	20	Kuwait	46



TEHRAN (Sept.4): Majlis Speaker Hojjatoleslam Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri inaugurates newly-built residential complex for Education Ministry's employees.



TEHRAN (Sept.4): Majlis Speaker Hojjatoleslam Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri directly presents the keys of the newly-built flats to the employees of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB).

Iraqi Dinar Crashes in Wake of U.S. Attacks

BAGHDAD — The volatile national currency, the dinar, has taken a huge tumble since the United States attacked Iraq with cruise missiles to punish President Saddam Hussein for assaulting Kurdish rebels.

Money traders quoted a rate of around 1,670 to the U.S. dollar on Wednesday. That was slightly stronger than Tuesday's level of 1,800 but much lower than the 1,050 rate a few days ago before the fighting started.

The dinar, which had risen sharply because of an oil-for-food deal with the United Nations earlier this year, is a key barometer of the nation's economy.

Reflecting the dinar's latest crash, food prices rose sharply in Baghdad following the first missile attacks Tuesday. A kilo of sugar now sells for about 1,100 dinars - double the price from last week.

"Only three days ago I could have bought rice for 550 dinars per kilo (2.2 pounds), but today's price is not right for poor people," said Fathia Saleem, a 57-year-old retired teacher. "One thousand dinars per kilo is too much for a retired old woman."

(AP)

France Finally at Peace in the Pacific

MAJURO — south Pacific nations made peace with Paris Wednesday, ending a 30-year battle over French nuclear testing in the region.

Regional leaders at the first south Pacific forum summit since the final French test in January agreed here to renew dialog with Paris.

In Paris, the government welcomed the decision. Foreign Ministry Spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt said the decision would enable France to resume full dialog and its presence in the region.

"Last year, in spite of disputes, France maintained contact with its south Pacific partners, and notably its development aid program," he said. France had given 130 million francs (26 million dollars) of annual aid to the region in recent years.

Last year French President Jacques Chirac's government shocked the Pacific by resuming nuclear testing at Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia and then conducted tests when the 1995 forum met at Madang, Papua New Guinea.

That forum expressed "extreme outrage" and ejected France from the post-summit dialog session.

The nuclear issue has vexed the Pacific since 1966, when France first exploded a nuclear bomb at Mururoa, and the Madang expulsion was the culmination of a series of diplomatic measures taken by the 16 nation forum.

France sent Cooperation Minister Jacques Godfrain to Madang to explain Paris' position.

The then forum dialog chairman and Papua New Guinea National Planning Minister Moi Avei accused France of engaging in "a political charade" and said an offer to increase aid to the region was "cheque book diplomacy."

In a statement Wednesday, the 27th annual south Pacific forum summit said the suspension of France had been a "significant and effective part" of the region's campaign against nuclear testing.

It said that in light of the permanent cessation of testing and other measures, including independent environmental monitoring of the test sites, forum leaders "decided to lift the suspension with immediate effect."

They also agreed to hold a special meeting with France as soon as possible. The remoteness of this south Pacific atoll made it impossible for Paris to send a representative in time to attend the usual post-summit dialog, set to begin Friday.

Forum Spokesman Sir Julius Chan, Papua New Guinea's prime minister, said the Madang resolution had served its purpose.

"I don't think we look at it as victory or defeat," Chan said.

After the final test in January this year France attempted to move quickly to restore normal relations, but has stumbled on a number of occasions.

(AFP)

Mother Teresa Should Have Years ahead of Her, Says Doctor

CALCUTTA – Mother Teresa, recovering from life-threatening heart problems, "should be able to get along for some more years", a doctor said here Wednesday.

Doctor Sudipta Sen, one of a six-strong team caring for the 86-year-old Nobel peace laureate at Woodlands Nursing Home, said that one of their major problems now was convincing her not to discharge herself and resume her missionary work.

"We had a very difficult patient once who just walked out and had to be stopped at the gate," he said. "I'm not saying she will do the same thing but she can be very persistent.

"She has specifically asked that she does not want anything more than tablets now. She is quite a stubborn lady. She should be able to get along for some more years at least."

Mother Teresa, awarded the Nobel prize in 1979 for her work in the Calcutta slums, was taken to hospital on August 20 with an irregular heart beat, later complicated by malaria and pneumonia.

She had to be revived 24 hours later when her heart stopped beating for 60 seconds.

Wednesday's medical bulletin read: "Mother Teresa's chest infection is completely under control and her breathing is satisfactory.

"She is in a steady condition. She still has a cardiac irregularity. She is alert and cheerful and taking a normal diet."

Sen, who said every day was a like "tug of war" as doctors tried to convince the Roman Catholic nun to rest for a few more days, added: "We have stopped the antibiotics and there is no sign of fever or chest infection.

"Now she is 80 percent back to normal. By this weekend she will probably be home."

Earlier Dr Dinamani Banerjee said the city authorities had been asked to spray the area around mother Teresa's lodgings at the missionary of charity headquarters to try and stop her catching malaria again.

(AFP)

Police Recover More Money From Former Politician Accused in Telephone Scam

NEW DELHI, India -- Police seized more money and jewelry from bank lockers of a former telecommunications minister accused of favoring some companies with lucrative government contracts, newspapers reported Wednesday.

The burgeoning scam threatens to delay India's efforts to add 10 million telephones in five years and could affect several politicians, especially former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

On Tuesday, the Central Bureau of Investigation seized 3.6 million rupees ($100,000) from four bank lockers operated by the wife of former Telecommunications Minister Sukh Ram, newspapers reported.

Ram, who is wanted by the CBI, is in London and has told police through his lawyers that he has a heart condition and cannot return to India until certified fit by his doctor, who also happens to be his son-in-law.

Last month, federal police raided three homes of Ram in India and seized more than 36 million rupees ($1 million) in unaccounted cash.

Ram, a former clerk in a state government, has been charged with possessing assets exceeding his earning capacity. As government minister, he earned about 13,000 rupees ($360) a month.

Ram has denied any wrongdoing and has said that the money does not belong to him. He has promised to reveal the details to police when he returns to India.
(AP)

Indian Parliament Grinds to a Halt Amid Hindu Protests

NEW DELHI -- India's Parliament was hit by new chaos Wednesday after Hindu nationalist deputies accused the government of attempting to sack their government in the western state of Gujarat.

Speakers halted work in both houses after members of the Hindu Nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party) raised anti-government slogans and repeatedly interrupted proceedings.

BJP members shouting "down with the butchers of democracy" rushed to Deputy Speaker Suraj Bhan in the Lower House, the Lok Sabha, and accused Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda's government of conspiring to topple the Gujarat Assembly.

Deve Gowda, whose minority government succeeded a shortlived BJP administration in June, watched the turmoil unmoved

Several communist members of Parliament pressed the deputy speaker to ignore the protests, but the shouting led to an adjournment for the second day. Similar scenes also closed down the Rajya Sabha, the Upper House.

The protests came after the BJP, the country's main opposition party, expressed fears that its government in Gujarat could be dismissed by New Delhi for losing its majority.

The BJP said it had appealed to President Shankar Dayal Sharma to block such a move.

"We are apprehensive," BJP Spokesman Krishan Lal Sharma said. "We think some conspiracy is being hatched to destablize the BJP government in Gujarat."

The one-year-old BJP government in Gujarat lost its majority in the State Assembly on Tuesday when the party split in two, with Deputy Speaker C.B. Dhabhi recognizing a 46-member breakaway group as a party in its own right.

The decision reduced the BJP strength from 120 to 74 in the 182-member house, with 92 needed for an overall majority.

Sharma, however, claimed the government still had the backing of 94 members and should thus remain in power.

He added the BJP suspected that Deve Gowda was quietly backing the dissidents and could influence the president to remove the government in the western coastal state.

Angry BJP deputies stalled the national Parliament's proceedings in New Delhi on Tuesday. (AFP)

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Snake Causes Explosions, Panic

ILIGAN, Philippines — A six-foot (1.8-meter) snake sparked fireworks and explosions when it climbed a power pylon at a village here, panicking residents who thought they had come under attack.

Residents of Dítucalan village said they were woken by loud explosions and sparks from an electricity switching compound Monday evening.

When the fireworks died down, residents discovered the charred remains of a boa constrictor which had climbed the power pylon. (AFP)

Beauty Lies in the Eye of the Beholder ...

NEW DELHI — Indian actress Aishwarya Rai, crowned miss world in 1994, has donated her eyes to a Bombay hospital, a newspaper said Wednesday.

"I would like to help someone see the beauty of the world through my eyes long after I have gone," the Pioneer quoted her as saying in Bombay, where she works in India's thriving film industry.

The Eye Bank Association said they hoped to persuade more celebrities to donate their eyes. (AFP)

Misuari Discounts Christian Opposition Amid Continued Hostility

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines -- Muslim leader Nur Misuari on Wednesday entered the main center for Christian protests against the peace accord he has made with the government.

Around 1,000 supporters, including guerrillas of his Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), welcomed Misuari at Zamboanga Airport. But Christians who have staged massive protests against the peace accord with the government signed Monday, largely boycotted his arrival.

A ceremonial signing of the peace agreement, moved from a sports stadium in the city center because of security fears, was moved to a Muslim district of the Christian dominated city.

The signing was called off and the ceremony was reduced to merely a series of meetings between Misuari and Muslim followers. A Zamboanga city official, who requested anonymity, said this was done in order to avoid provoking the Christians further.

Misuari minimized the opposition by Christians. "You don't have to highlight this small and dying opposition," he said.

"I think they now finally realize the futility of opposing the cause of peace," he said referring to the Christian protests.

Other cities on the southern island of Mindanao pursued their protests.

In general Santos city, Roman Catholic church leaders were organizing a massive protest against the agreement to coincide with the city's 28th anniversary celebrations on Thursday.

Parish priests called for a transport strike and for private businesses to close. They plan to burn coffins with effigies of Ramos and Misuari on top.

In Dipolog city, the city council announced plans to declare President Fidel Ramos, persona non grata for agreeing to the peace accord. (AFP)

U.S. Plane Arrives to Fly Foreigners Out of Bujumbura

BUJUMBURA -- A U.S. Air Force C-141 plane arrived on Wednesday morning to fly foreign residents from the capital of embattled Burundi, Bujumbura, to the Kenyan capital Nairobi.

The aircraft landed at 10:30 a.m. (0830 GMT) and had still not taken off by early afternoon, an AFP correspondent on the scene reported.

U.S. Ambassador Morris Hughes said passengers would have to pay for the flight and declared that it was not an evacuation mission.

Extremist rebels of the Hutu majority on Tuesday fired mortars on the city and gave a noisy display of rifle-fire in the surrounding hills, in what a guerrilla spokesman said was a warning to the Tutsi-led regime and army.

The U.S. ambassador stated that the plane was to carry 31 passengers, including two embassy staff, three other American nationals and five foreigners normally resident in the United States. (AFP)

Decisive Majority of Okinawans Want U.S. Bases Cut

TOKYO -- A decisive majority of voters on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa want a cut in U.S. bases, according to a poll released Wednesday.

Published on the anniversary of the rape of a 12-year-old girl by three American servicemen in Okinawa and only four days before a local vote on the issue, the *Asahi Shimbun* poll found 78 percent of local voters support a cut in U.S. bases.

The survey found 90 percent of respondents were considering voting in Sunday's prefectural referendum, the first in Japan.

Some 69 percent of respondents said they would definitely vote, while 21 percent said they would if possible, the newspaper said.

Most of those who supported a reduction in bases cited the "large number of crimes or accidents involving U.S. military personnel" and the "excess burden on Okinawa." (AFP)

Palestinian Hijacker Forces Plane to Norway

OSLO, Norway -- The crew of a Bulgarian Airliner hijacked to Oslo by a Palestinian who claimed he had a bomb tricked the man into releasing all the passengers, the plane's captain said Wednesday.

The airliner was hijacked Tuesday on a flight from Beirut, Lebanon, to Varna, Bulgaria. All 150 passengers were released in Varna before the plane left for Oslo, where the 22-year-old hijacker surrendered and asked for political asylum.

No one was injured, and police said no weapons or bombs were found aboard the plane. The chocolate box that allegedly held the bomb turned out to be empty.

While the Soviet-built Tupolev 154 jetliner was waiting for refueling in Bulgaria, the quick-thinking crew attempted a ruse.

"If the passengers remain on board, we told him, we will have to land for refueling. But that was a lie," Captain Valter Kolev told reporters. "After about 25 minutes of discussion, he went along with it."

The hijacker surrendered less than an hour after the Hemus Air Jet landed Tuesday evening at Gardermoen, a charter airport north of Oslo. His only demands were to talk to a lawyer, and be allowed to seek asylum. (AP)

Growing Suspicion That Belgian Sex Ring Had Official Protection



JUMET, Belgium (Sept. 3): One of two hearses leaves the house owned by convicted child rapist Marc Dutroux following the discovery of human remains there. The arrival of the cars appeared to indicate that several bodies had been found at the site, where the corpses of up to five girls are believed to be buried. (AFP PHOTO)

BRUSSELS -- Suspicions that the paedophile ring allegedly masterminded by Marc Dutroux enjoyed highly-placed protection grew Wednesday with reports that police probing the network had quizzed magistrates, a lawyer and police officers.

The claims, which have been publicly voiced by the parents of Dutroux's alleged victims, were further strengthened when the father of the convicted child rapist appealed to his son to name his protectors or risk being killed to guarantee his silence.

"The most important and most urgent thing is to make him understand he must say who is financing him, who is protecting him, because he is risking his life by keeping quiet," Victor Dutroux said.

"Quite simply, he is in danger of being killed so that he won't be able to denounce anyone," he told RTBF Radio.

Belgian newspapers said police had interrogated nine people, including three magistrates and several police officers in Charleroi, Dutroux's hometown. They also gathered photographic evidence to support allegations of collusion with known criminals.

Public prosecutor Michel Bourlet however denied that any public officials had been formally implicated in the affair other than a police inspector arrested last month.

The latest developments came a day after the decomposing bodies of two teenagers were discovered buried under a shed at one of Dutroux's homes in Jumet, near Charleroi, plunging Belgium into a new round of national mourning.

The girls, An Marchal, 17, and Eefje Lambrecks, 19, were allegedly abducted by Dutroux while on holiday on the Belgian coast last August.

Dutroux has also been charged with the abduction of Melissa Russo and Julie Lejeune, two eight year olds found starved to death at Dutroux's home last month, and two other girls, who were found alive.

Following their excavation at the Jumet house, police began fresh searches at Dutroux's main residence, where the bodies of Melissa and Julie were found, in a nearby wood and in a car dump to the north of Charleroi.

At least 10 children who have gone missing in Belgium since 1985 are still unaccounted for. (AFP)

Strong Quake Cuts Power, Causes Some Injuries and Damage

ALGIERS, Algeria -- A magnitude-5.7 earthquake struck the Algiers area before dawn Wednesday, injuring more than a dozen people and causing scattered damage, officials said.

Civil defense authorities said 13 people were hospitalized with light injuries and that the quake shattered windows and left cracks and other minor damage in dozens of buildings.

But no major damage was reported from the quake, which was followed by at least two smaller aftershocks.

The main temblor, which struck at 5:15 a.m. (0415 GMT), sent residents running into the streets. Many tried to flee in their cars, snarling traffic.

The epicenter was about 35 kilometers (20 miles) northwest of Algiers, in the Mediterranean, according to the global physics observatory in Strasbourg, France. It struck Algiers and the nearby cities of Blida and Tipaza.

The quake was followed by aftershocks two and three hours later.

A magnitude-6 earthquake can cause severe damage in a populated area. (AP)

Tigers Agree to Polio Truce

COLOMBO -- Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger guerrillas Wednesday announced that they will observe a cease-fire for four days to allow a United Nations agency to carry out a nation-wide polio immunization program.

The separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said they will "observe peace" on September 6 and 7 and again on October 11 and 12 and expressed the hope that security forces too will hold their fire.

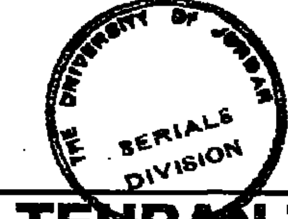
There was no immediate reaction from the government to the LTTE's unilateral cease-fire agreement.

The LTTE's London office quoted the group's elusive leader Velupillai Prabhakaran as saying that he agrees to the truce in a letter to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) representative in Colombo Brita Ostberg. (AFP)



ALGER (Sept. 3): Firemen walk next to the devastated Hotel d'Angleterre after a massive bomb attack killed at least one person and injured 10 others, on the several-story building in central Algiers. (AFP PHOTO)





Russian Inflation Falls to Nearly Zero Despite Election Largesse

MOSCOW — Fruit, sugar, eggs and butter provided a strong mixture of low, almost zero inflation in Russia in August, marking the lowest increase since post-communist reforms were launched, despite electoral largesse by President Boris Yeltsin.

The summer prices of these four foodstuffs fell markedly, pulling down the monthly inflation index which had already fallen to a record post-reform low point in July.

The government hopes that Russia will end the year with inflation of less than 30 percent from 2,500 percent in 1992, the year of reform, but a low rate of tax collection casts a major question mark over a target of less than 10 percent in 1997.

"Inflation is practically zero. It may be we are even experiencing a small fall in prices (in August)," the head of the statistical service Irina Goryacheva told AFP.

Figures gathered last week "show a downward trend, of 0.2 percent in a month," said Goryacheva who is responsible for prices within the state committee for statistics.

The official data would be published soon, she said.

In July prices had risen by 0.7 percent. This was a record low figure since reform of the economy was launched in January 1992.

In the first year of the reform program, adjustment led to hyperinflation of 2,500 percent.

Prices began to fall slowly in 1993 but last year they rose by 131 percent.

Experts had feared that inflation would rise again this summer owing to the cost of expenditure and promises by Yeltsin in his campaign for re-election in July.

But upward pressure on prices has been contained and in the last 12 months inflation has been 40 percent.

So far this year prices have risen by 16.5 percent and the government hopes that the increase for the whole of 1996 will be less than 30 percent.

In August "prices of fruit and vegetables fell sharply and the price of eggs, sugar, oil and butter also fell," Goryacheva said.

The price index is based on the prices of 288 goods and services in 196 towns with a total population of nearly 150 million.

Control of inflation, which is one of the main conditions laid down by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in return for loans, is a key objective for the government.

The budget for 1997 has been based on an assumption that annual inflation will be less than 10 percent.

Some economists and political leaders, and notably the communist party, fear that the drive to strangle inflation will suffocate industry and impede a recovery of national output which has fallen steeply during the last five years and is slow to rally.

But the government, and the liberals who hold the key economic posts, explain that tight monetary policy is required, notably to maintain the living standards of the poorest dependent on fixed incomes, and to ensure that investment recovers.

Another requirement of the IMF is that taxes be collected. Russia needs finance from the IMF which has undertaken to provide more than $10 billion over three years if the government meets the monetary targets laid down by the fund.

In July the IMF froze the transfer of $330 million mainly because tax revenue had fallen short of the amount in the budget. This aid was eventually released in August.

"The Russian government and Central Bank achieved their targets in July and their policy will enable them to respect the economic program agreed with the fund," the IMF has said.

In the first half of 1996, 58.9 percent of the revenue specified in the budget had been collected. This has forced the government to cut expenditure sharply. But the budgeted expenditure had already been reduced to the minimum amount and the government must find ways of increasing revenue if it is to avoid increasing the deficit and re-igniting inflation.

Under the budget for 1997 the deficit is to be held down to 3.3 percent of total expediture. The text is to be debated by the Lower House of Parliament, the Duma, this month.

The deficit in 1996 was to have been 3.8 percent but the limit has been increased to 5.2 percent with the agreement of the IMF.

The government is preparing a series of tax reforms and has said that the low rate of tax collection was caused mainly by the presidential election.

(AFP)

U.S. Federal Reserve May Raise Interest Rates by a Half Point

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Federal Reserve is growing uneasy about the pace of U.S. economic growth and may raise interest rates by a half point later this month, the Wall Street journal reported Tuesday.

The paper said fed policymakers could increase the benchmark federal funds rate from 5.25 percent to 5.75 percent, rather than 5.5 as has been anticipated, at their next meeting September 24.

"We're at a critical juncture," the journal quoted a fed official as saying.

"We need to see more evidence of moderating growth."

Critical to the decision taken by the Federal Reserve's open market committee will be a report on August unemployment due out on Friday.

Any further fall in the jobless rate, curently at 5.4 percent, could spark fears of wage-driven price increases and prompt the fed to intervene to cool down the economy.

Wall Street analysts already are predicting the report will show that the U.S. economy created 275,000 new jobs last month, taking the unemployment rate down to 5.2 percent.

The fed this year now has taken a hands-off approach to U.S. economic growth, easing the federal funds rate in January and leaving it unchanged at subsequent meetings of the open market committee.

The rate, charged by banks making overnight loans among themselves, is a target figure that tends to affect the cost of credit throughout the economy.

Despite strong growth and consistently low unemployment, inflation has so far this year remained under control. The consumer price index rose at an annual rate of 3.5 percent in the first seven months of 1996, after 2.9 percent in the same period last year.

On Friday one of the governors of the Federal Reserve, Lawrence Lindsey, told a television interviewer the economy was under no current inflationary threat but warned that "overheating" remained a distinct possibility.

Lindsey was speaking after a series of figures released last week that all pointed to stronger-than-expected expansion in gross domestic product.

Second-quarter growth was put at 4.8 percent, factory orders jumped 1.8 percent in July, consumer spending advanced 0.2 percent and the Chicago purchasing management association index rose dramatically to a level of 60 in August from 51.2 in July.

Further signs of robust growth came Tuesday, when the conference board reported that its composite index of leading indicators rose 0.2 percent in July after a revised 0.5 percent increase in June.

Private economists have widely predicted that growth will slow to between two and three percent in the third quarter but have noted that the pace will still be too volatile to satisfy the Federal Reserve.

(AFP)

July Leading Indicators Up 0.2%

NEW YORK — The index of leading economic indicators rose a greater-than-expected 0.2 percent in July to 103.1 after a revised 0.5 percent gain in June, the conference board reported Tuesday.

Six of the 11 components contributed to the increase in July, led by changes in sensitive materials prices and average initial claims for state unemployment insurance.

The most significant negative indicator in July was the average factory workweek, the conference board said.

Over the six months to July, the index increased by 2.7 percent.

The consensus forecast from Wall Street analysts had been for a 0.1 percent rise in leading indicators during July.

(AFP)

Trading at Cairo Bourse Hits Record High

CAIRO — The volume of trading on the Egyptian stock market reached a record high of 5.1 billion pounds ($1.5 billion) from January until the end of August, the government daily *Al-Ahram* newspaper reported on Tuesday.

Financial sources told AFP this was almost five times as high as the total transactions for the January-August 1995 period, which stood at 1.2 billion pounds.

The chairman of the Egyptian capital market authority Abdel Hamid Ibrahim, quoted by *Al-Ahram*, attributed the increase mainly to three foreign-based investment funds which began trading on the market.

Ibrahim said these funds, which he did not identify, had a combined capital of $136 million.

Meanwhile Business Sector Minister Atef Ebeid said demand for shares of companies recently privatized by the government had increased considerably showing invester confidence in the future of these companies.

He said privatization plans for September included putting up for sale on the stock market the shares of eight new companies worth a total of 758 million pounds (around $222 million).

Out of 314 firms singled out for privatization, 32 have been already privatised, including 17 at more than 51 percent, financial sources told AFP.

In another development, an official at Egypt's Central Bank said total bank deposits at the end of June 1996 stood at 174.8 billion pounds (around $51.4 billion), *Al-Ahram* reported.

The amount represented an increase of 18.3 billion pounds (or 11.7 percent) since June 1995.

(AFP)

German Agency Probing Lufthansa Berlin-Frankfurt Fares

BERLIN — The German federal cartels office, which polices competition in Germany, has started a probe of the fares charged by Lufthansa airline on the Berlin-Frankfurt route, where it has a virtual monopoly, office spokeswoman Elke Zeise announced on Tuesday.

"The office's investigations started several months ago. Some passengers complained that the Lufthansa fares between the German financial capital and Berlin were higher than on other routes with a comparable distance", she said.

"We are checking on whether Lufthansa has special costs between Frankfurt and Berlin that would justify those fares".

(AFP)

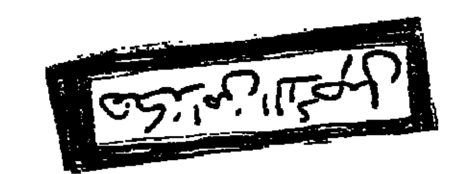
Lebanon Trade Deficit Shows 3.5% Decrease

BEIRUT — Lebanon's trade deficit decreased by 3.5 percent in the first seven months of 1996, compared with figures from the same period of last year, a statement by the Central Bank of Lebanon reported Tuesday.

The trade deficit went down from $3.728 billion at the end of July 1995 to 3.599 billion at the end of the first seven months of this year.

Imports slightly decreased from $4.159 billion in July 1995 to $4.155 billion at the end of the first seven months of this year while exports showed a 29 percent increase to $556 million at the end of July.

(AFP)



TV Programs

Thursday Evening, September 5

National Network. Channel 1:

12:30 Focus on Family
13:03 Call to Prayer (Azan)
14:00 News
14:30 Focus on Family
15:45 Kids Corner
16:30 News
17:00 Children's Program
18:00 Interlude
18:15 Lessons From the Holy Qoran
18:50 The Move
19:03 News
19:10 Focus on Imam Khomeini
19:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:55 Report on Majlis
20:40 Press Review
21:00 News
21:30 Commercials
21:40 Summer 75
22:15 Weekly Quiz Show
23:00 Commercials
23:15 Feature Movie

National Network. Channel 2:

13:10 Religious Program
13:20 Interlude
13:30 Thoughts
14:00 Iranian TV Series
15:00 Football School
15:30 Meteorology
16:00 Atlanta Paralympic From 2nd Look
17:00 Foreigners' Shadow
17:30 Religious Program
18:00 Computer
18:30 Automobile Era
19:00 Children's Program
19:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:00 Summertime Program
20:30 Scientific-Cultural News
20:45 Religious Program
21:00 Weekly Political Discussion
21:40 Iranian TV Series
22:30 News
22:45 Nightly Notes
23:00 Night-Time Program
23:30 Travel to Gilan
23:45 Great Philosophers

National Network. Channel 3:

16:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
16:10 Religious Program
16:45 Sports Program
19:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
19:45 Sports News
20:00 Foreign TV Series
20:45 Unveiled Faces
21:30 Interlude
21:45 The Third Smile
22:45 News (in English)

National Network. Tehran Channel:

17:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
17:15 Advisors
17:40 Sport Roundup
18:30 Tehran News
18:45 In the City
19:00 Other Kind
19:15 Tehran's Districts
19:30 Economic Magazine
19:44 Call to Prayer (Azan)
20:00 In the City
20:15 Travelling
20:30 Commercial TV
20:45 Pioneers
21:00 The 5th Look
21:30 Theater in TV
22:00 News
22:15 In the City
22:30 Komail Supplications
23:20 Cinema
24:00 Sights & Sounds

Friday Morning, September 6

National Network. Channel 1:

10:45 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic
11:00 Message Network
12:25 Recitation of the Holy Qoran
13:03 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network. Channel 2:

08:00 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
08:15 Football School
08:45 Great Philosophers
09:15 A New Day
10:00 Children's Program
12:00 Fishing
12:30 Automobile Era
13:03 Call to Prayer (Azan)

National Network. Channel 3:

07:30 National Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Recitations From the Holy Qoran
07:45 Modern Basketball
08:45 Third Smile (comic)
09:45 Unveiled Faces
10:30 Foreign TV Series
11:15 Religious Program

Amoco Cadiz Millions Being Frittered Away

Rather than being spent on measures to restore and protect the beautiful coastline spoiled by the tons of oil that were washed up on the beaches and cliffs from the stricken tanker in 1978, the money is by and large being treated as a windfall for council coffers.

PLOUDALMEZEAU, France -- The $70 million awarded to local authorities in Brittany in compensation for the damage they suffered from the Amoco Cadiz oil tanker disaster are being frittered away.

Rather than being spent on measures to restore and protect the beautiful coastline spoiled by the tons of oil that were washed up on the beaches and cliffs from the stricken tanker in 1978, the money is by and large being treated as a windfall for council coffers.

A 14-year legal fight in the United States finally resulted in 235 million francs ($47 million) being paid out to 90 local authorities and more than 1.2 billion francs to the French state, which passed on 130 million francs of that sum to the town halls.

After the disaster, the biggest marine oil spill in history, the affected communities had set up a joint fund to preserve and protect the northwest Brittany coast, which is a haven for seabirds and a magnet for tourists.

"But as the interminable legal proceedings dragged on the aim of this undertaking was forgotten," commented Andre Le Pape, former mayor of the village of Trebeurden, who is a strong critic of the way the fund has been managed.

Most communities have plundered it joyfully, spending their share of the cash on sewage works, schools and roads, paying off loans and balancing the books.

But at least such projects have seen an improvement in local amenities. Others are less easy to defend.

At Trebeurden itself a total of 4.5 million francs was paid out unconditionally to the promoter of a controversial yachting Marina on a local beach.

A new council voted in subsequently has refused to produce the further one million francs a year over six years required to complete the marina, which remains unfinished.

At Portsall, off which the Amoco Cadiz foundered after running aground on March 16, 1978, pouring 220,000 tons of oil into the sea, a similar disaster would have the same consequences.

While nothing has been done to protect the coastline, there is a fine new school, built at a cost of 4.5 million francs. It has been named for Francois Mitterrand, the former president who decided to top up the original compensation.

A few communities have built new sea walls or restored marshlands ruined by the oil, but they might well have done it in any case.

Alphonse Arzel, a centrist senator and mayor of Ploudalmezeau who is in charge of the joint fund, dismisses the criticism.

"Each community was free to use the money as it wished," he said, admitting that there was no real discussion on any joint action to protect the shoreline.

"This windfall has been wasted," retorted Andre Le Pape, who has called in vain for a clear statement from the participants in the fund that the cash be used strictly and exclusively for the environment.

"Arzel always refused, and most of the mayors in office at the time of the oil spill were no longer there in 1992," he said. "For their successors the money was a Godsend."

Details of the fund's finances do not seem to be available. Arzel said that if any cash was left it would be used for a joint environmental scheme.

He suggested a project to eliminate green algae, a problem caused by excess nitrates from fertilizers, which has been around for some 20 years. *(AFP)*

Excavators Unearth Crusaders' Gold Coins

CAIRO, Egypt – Excavators have unearthed priceless gold coins apparently counterfeited by Crusaders in southern Egypt about 900 years ago, Egyptian archaeologists said Saturday.

The eight coins were discovered recently in the village of Toha in the southern province of Minya – a region rich in antiquities – after villagers there stumbled upon three similar coins last year, said Abdel-Halim Noureddin, head of the Supreme Council for Antiquities.

The coins are almost perfect counterfeits of the currency used during the Fatimid Dynasty, which ruled medieval Egypt from 969 to 1171 and founded the capital Cairo, Noureddin said. The Crusaders invaded the Middle East in 1096.

That dates the coins to the 12th century, he said.

The coins faces are bordered with two rows of the block-like Arabic that was so "complex and sophisticated that the falseness could not be detected easily," a statement from the council said.

Experts found imperfections proving they were counterfeit, said Abdallah Attar, a spokesman for the council. But he refused to elaborate. *(AP)*

Movie Theaters No Longer Turn Deaf Ear to Customers

WASHINGTON -- Cineplex Odeon Corporation was to provide hard-of-hearing customers with "assistive listening systems" to enable them to hear movie sounds, the U.S. Department of Justice said recently.

A hard-of-hearing customer had sued under the Americans with disabilities act, alleging that the lack of such devices in more than 800 U.S. theaters constituted illegal discrimination by the Toronto-based company.

The American with disabilities act requires companies that operate "places of public accommodation, such as movie theaters, to make their goods and services accessible to persons with disabilities," the department said.

The hard-of-hearing will "be able to enjoy the movies, like everyone else," Assistant Attorney for Civil Rights Deval Patrick said of the out-of-court settlement between the government and the company.

The headsets to be provided under the agreement pick up amplified sound transmissions via special receivers.

In a similar effort to accommodate disabled customers, the United Artists theater company in April agreed to create wheelchair locations throughout their theaters. *(AFP)*

Centenarian Murdered in French Village

GRENOBLE, France -- Last month Emma Chabanel celebrated her 100th birthday with her fellow villagers.

On Friday, she was dead – and police suspected foul play.

The mayor of Saint Lattier village went to Chabanel's home earlier in the day after neighbors remarked that they had not seen her for some time, a police source said.

There he found her body, and the premises ransacked. It appeared she had been murdered.

Chabanel turned 100 on July 3 with a party celebrated by the entire village. *(AFP)*

Most Britons Want Elizabeth II to Be Last Monarch

LONDON – Most Britons believe the monarchy should be abolished when Queen Elizabeth II passes away, suggests a phone-in poll carried out Thursday by a BBC television program.

Fifty-two percent said yes, and 48 percent no, to the question: "Should Queen Elizabeth be our last monarch?"

More than 40,000 viewers telephoned the current affairs program "You Decide" to register their opinions.

On Wednesday, the queen's eldest son and heir to the throne, Prince Charles, was divorced from Princess Diana after a stormy 15-year marriage.

Constitutional experts say the divorce will not affect the prince's right to become king.

The queen turned 70 this year. *(AFP)*

Airplane Makers Ride Wave of New Orders

FARNBOROUGH, England -- Things are taking off in the airplane manufacturing business, putting the big players in a fine mood as they gathered to show off their wares.

McDonnell Douglas Corp., hoping to bounce back after losing market share in recent years, announced it had gained some $700 million in new orders, including a $345 million deal for 10 new and three used MD-80s for Trans World Airlines.

"If there's a way to measure confidence, it's obviously the orders," Michael Sears, the president of Douglas Aircraft Co., told reporters on the opening day of the Farnborough International '96 Air Show.

"We would expect to do some business this week. We would ask you to stay tuned," Sears told a news conference punctuated by the sound of a helicopter whirling overhead.

Airlines are filling their jets with passengers and raking in the profits. And with global air traffic expected to triple in the next two decades, orders are taking off as the top manufacturers contemplate making even bigger airplanes.

The boom is welcome news for airplane makers, who went through a gloomy period in the early 1990s when the recession hammered the world's airlines, forcing them to cut back their purchases.

"It's a new scene," enthused Sir Ralph Robins, chairman of the British engine-maker Rolls-Royce PLC. "We look forward to this year and next year with more hope and enthusiasm than we've seen for some time."

"We're going to be about three times as good as last year," said David Velupillai, spokesman for the European consortium Airbus Industrie. Airbus expects to gain 300 firm orders this year, up from 106 in 1995, Velupillai said.

Through the end of July, Airbus had already racked up 189 orders, worth $14 billion, compared to the $7 billion that last year's orders were worth.

Airbus expects to announce more orders on Tuesday and Wednesday, but Velupillai would not comment on a report in the *Sunday Telegraph* that said the deals are worth $3.5 billion.

Orders at Boeing had already bounced back from the recession that began in 1990, handing airlines record losses and forcing them to cancel numerous airplane orders.

By the end of June, Boeing had 225 new airplane orders at a price of $17.62 billion. Last year, Boeing won orders for 346 airplanes at $31.24 billion, showing a strong recovery from 1994, with just 120 orders worth $7.88 billion.

Heading into the show, Boeing was staying tight-lipped about reports it would announce plans to proceed with enhanced versions of its biggest passenger jet, the four-engine 747.

Boeing has been testing airlines' responses to the ideas of a 747-500X, which would carry 400 passengers like current models but fly farther, and a 747-600X, which would fly slightly farther than the current models but with 550 people onboard.

The new 747s would accomplish this with bigger wings, but it's unclear if the new models will fly.

"A lot of people are uninformed," Boeing spokesman Craig Martin said when asked about various press reports about the improved 747s.

Airbus meanwhile, is soldiering on with plans for an even bigger airplane, the double-decker A3XX – which initially could seat

(Cont'd on Pg. ?)

Causative Factors in Breast Cancer

The breast, the uterus and the ovaries are the three major components of the sexual and generative apparatus of woman and they share nearly 70 percent of the cancers that occur in the female. Among South Indian women the cervix takes the lion's share of about 40 percent, the breast comes second with 20 to 25 percent.

The "breast," however, has drawn global scientific attention far more than the cervix for a variety of reasons. The breasts are surface organs critical to the feminine configuration and cosmesis. Their distortions and abnormalities were noticed thousands of years ago by Sushruta and Hippocrates. They are functionally an integral part of motherhood. Added to all this they are the most common site for cancer in the Caucasian female and the second most common in the developing world. The incidence of breast cancer is on the rise both in the Western and Asian races.

The causative factors in breast cancer are complex and still not clearly understood, compared to cervical cancer. Yet clinical and scientific observation over the centuries has unveiled many facts that may help to control it and which people ought to know for their own safety.

Breast cancer, unlike cervical or oral cancer, tends to run in families: hundreds of "breast cancer families" have been identified all over the world. At the Cancer Institute in Madras alone, we have records of over thirty such cases. There can be little doubt that the genetic error is inherited. A family carrying the "HBC" (hereditary breast cancer) gene carries a 50 percent risk of its women developing breast cancer. Moreover, it occurs at a younger age than in sporadic cases and is usually premenopausal.

It is not certain whether the inherited stigma is specific for "breast" cancer or is related to the female sex hormones, because the "familial syndrome" manifests itself as breast cancer in one sister and endometrial or ovarian cancer in another. In all likelihood both occur. The genetic susceptibility could be transmitted through either parent. The risk, therefore, of breast cancer in the sister or daughter of a breast cancer patient is about three times that in the general female population, especially if the cancer were pre-menopausal. Under certain circumstances the risk could be even higher.

Abnormal endocrinal activity, outside the hereditary factor, could also play a role in inducing breast cancer. This suspicion derives from the high incidence of breast cancer in women who have not borne children, in women who had their first child after 30 years, or who had early puberty or a protracted menopause.

External factors have also been indicted, prominent among them being obesity and a diet rich in fat. A high fat diet, rich in cholestrol, seems to be at the root of many ills, cardio-vascular disease, colon cancer, breast cancer, gall bladder disease etc. Exposure to radiation at puberty or young age carries a very distinct risk of breast cancer as could be seen in the atom bomb survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Hence any radiation cure to the breasts for benign breast disease is positively illadvised and should be avoided at all costs. This applies equally to the consumption of estrogen drugs. Estrogens have been repeatedly shown to induce cancers in the breasts of young female mice and ovarian ablation has considerably reduced or even abolished the occurrence of breast cancer in mice genetically prone to them.

Women who have undergone sterlization before 35 years have a low, or nil, incidence of breast cancer. This raises the question of the safety of contraceptive pills and considerable study has been devoted to this aspect. The general consensus is that the risk is minimal but that it is desirable to minimise the estrogen content of contraceptive pills and to restrict their usage.

Racial differences also seem to exist in the global incidence of breast cancer. It varies from 77.8 to 93.9 per 100,000 women in the U.S. while in Japan it is only 25 and in Madras it is 24.6 per 100,000 women. i.e. the risk of breast cancer in Asian women appears to be only a third of that in the Caucasian. Barshi in rural Maharashtra reports an incidence of only 6.8 against the 26.1 per 100,000 women in Mumbai. Of considerable interest in this regard is the pattern of breast cancer incidence in Japanese women migrants to the U.S. In first generation migrants it is similar to that of the Japanese native but tends to rise in the second and third generation migrants though always remaining much lower than in the American white.

All these facts indicate that environment exerts only a minor influence in the causation of breast cancer and that the crucial factors are endogenous. At the same time the impression that endogenous proclivities are modulated to some degree by marital and material lifestyles of the different ethnic groups is inescapable. Rural women of Barshi often marry before they are 20 or are mothers before that age. They adhere to the Indian tradition of nursing their children for as long as two years. Their urban Mumbai sisters, far more sophisticated, marry at a much later age, motherhood is delayed and they nurse their babies much less. The protective effect of motherhood is thus either diminished or lost. And this biological phenomenon probably applies with greater force to Western culture.

The epidemiological and biological features of breast cancer would seem to suggest, therefore, that the concept of prevention, in the conventional sense, may not be applicable to this neoplastic condition. However, it is desirable to identify the neoplastic process at the cellular level itself. Breast cancer carries an intrinsic potential for early dissemination to different parts of the body, sometime even before it is palpable and very definitely if it reaches sizable dimensions. It is mandatory, therefore, to identify the disease process at the pre-clinical stages.

One is to segregate the categories of women who are at high risk for the disease. Such "high risk" women are:

First degree female relatives (sisters and daughters) of breast cancer patients. Other female blood relatives are also at risk though to a lesser degree.

Women with benign breast disease.

Nulliparous women, whether spinsters or married.

Women who had their first child after the age of 30.

Women with protracted and late menopause.

Women with a history of ovarian or endometrial cancer.

Women who have been on prolonged estrogen therapy.

Though molecular epidemiology can be employed to further isolate a "high risk" subject, it does not appear pragmatic in a population screening program. Nor does it seem possible at the present time, in the state of our present knowledge, to enunciate definite approaches to prevention. The suggestion that motherhood in the twenties and nursing the baby for six to nine months may reduce the risk of breast cancer remains unproven.

In the circumstances screening of the "high risk population" seems the only viable avenue left. Its successful implementation in our society will need tremendous dissemination of information.

At the present time the identification of an early cancerous or of a potentially cancerous change in the breast is accomplished by physical examination, mammography and microscopic examination of suspicious tissue samples removed by aspiration or biopsy. The first two remain the cornerstones of a breast screening program the last being undertaken only in select cases.

Physical examination can be done by the woman herself (breast self-examination) or by a physician. Intelligent breast self-examination requires a degree of education and may be unreliable or even dangerous in a large section of our female community.

If a lump of any kind is felt when the breast is rolled under the "flat" of the hand against the chest wall one should report to a reliable medical center immediately for a complete physical examination. Following this physical examination a mammogram i.e. a special form of X-Ray imaging of the breast is mandatory in every woman over the age of 40 years.

Mammography has been in vogue in Europe and the U.S. now for over 30 years. The benefits in terms of live saved by mammographic screening have been so substantial that many of those countries have established "national Breast Screening Programs." In women over the age of 50 years mortality from breast cancer has thus been lowered by 30 percent to 50 percent in the last decade. This improvement in survival extends to the 40-49 years age group too.

In case of the slightest doubt in the mind of the physician, either clinically or mammographically, a definitive confirmation by aspiration cytology or excision biospy should be obtained.

In the control of cancer, in general, the subject, the family, the physician and the community share responsibility in equal measure. Every woman should understand clearly that the two common cancers that afflict their sex are preventable to a large extent and highly curable, if they pay heed to simple health rules and spare just half a day once in a year. It is also the duty of the community to ensure that this knowledge and facility reaches every woman in their circle.

(Courtesy The Hindu)

10 Cups of Green Tea a Day Good for the Heart

LONDON - Men who drink at least 10 cups of green tea a day have lower cholesterol and may be less likely to suffer from heart disease, according to a Japanese study.

The findings lend support to previous test tube and animal studies that suggest chemicals in green tea may ward off heart disease.

"The associations between green tea and serum total cholesterol ... imply that green tea may act preventively against cardiovascular disease," wrote Dr. K. Imai, one of the investigators from the Saitama Cancer Center Research Institute in Saitama, Japan.

Green tea is the name given to a wide variety of teas because they are green rather than black. Green tea can have as much caffeine as black tea, however, and is not the same thing as herbal tea.

The new study did not identify a specific healthy ingredient in green tea that distinguishes it from other kinds of tea.

THOUGHT

IT is only the poor who are forbidden to beg.

Anatole France, French author

PRAYER

Noon	13:02
Evening	19:41
Dawn (tomorrow)	5:08
Sunrise (tomorrow)	6:43

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS

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Letters	Scoring	
H T T S O O H	Double Word Score	RACK 1
S blank S C N A K	Triple Word Score	RACK 2
D E O O L N N		RACK 3
D I O S Y L L		RACK 4

PAR SCORE 110-120

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL ____

TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7- letter word from the letters in each row. To total points of your words, use scoring directions to right of each row. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words can be found in OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). **Judd's solution on Saturday**

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Here is the solution to yesterday's Scrabble

SCRABBLE BRAND GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD © 1994, United Feature Syndicate, Inc

Word	Rack	Score
F O O T E R S	RACK 1	60
B A L K E D	RACK 2	18
D E S I G N	RACK 3	8
F A S T I N G	RACK 4	83
PAR SCORE 105-115	JUDD'S TOTAL	169

1-2-95

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HEALTH CAPSULES®
by Michael A. Petti, M.D.

WHICH CHEESES SHOULD YOU KEEP IN THE REFRIGERATOR ?

ALL CHEESE EXCEPT ROMANO AND PARMESAN CHEESE WHICH DON'T HAVE ENOUGH MOISTURE TO GROW BACTERIA.

Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.

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A KERNEL of POPCORN DROPPED ON A NEUTRON STAR WOULD CAUSE AN EXPLOSION EQUAL TO THAT of a WWII ATOMIC BOMB!

Believe It or Not! A TEAPOT, MADE in 1743 AND FOUND IN A GARAGE in Southern England, SOLD AT A 1994 AUCTION in London, England for $63,000!

DURING THE REIGN of England's Henry VIII, COMMONERS WERE ALLOWED TO PLAY TENNIS ONLY DURING THE 12 DAYS of CHRISTMAS!

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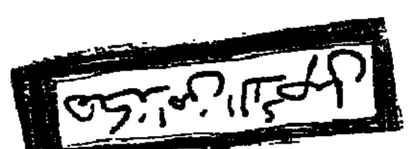
THAT'S IT... STEADY... EASY...

...KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE BALL...

NOW! CATCH IT!!

BONK!

YOU DON'T TAKE DIRECTION VERY WELL, DO YOU?



Campaign Kickoff: Dole Calls For Using National Guard in Antidrug Effort

ST. LOUIS, Missouri — Opening their homestretch campaign, Republicans Bob Dole and Jack Kemp pledged "a nonstop crusade across the length and breadth of America" to claim the White House.

As a key part of the campaign. Dole is keeping the heat on President Clinton over soaring teen drug use and is proposing to put the national guard at the "forefront" of the war on drugs. Failing that, Dole suggested the regular military be used as well.

Still trailing Clinton by double digits in national polls, Dole nevertheless predicted a "come-from-behind victory ... you just wait and see."

As thousands crowded along the bank of the Mississippi River beneath St. Louis' landmark 630-foot (192 meters) stainless steel arch, Dole promised tax cuts and cast the Clinton alternative as a potpourri of government programs. "Jack Kemp and I have one big plan, just like this big arch — one big plan give American families back more of their hard-earned money," he declared.

Kemp, who was in the middle of a seven-day, 12-state tour when he met up with Dole on Monday, said the rally on the Labor Day national holiday officially launched the final two-month sprint to election day.

"Today Bob Dole and I will begin a nonstop crusade across the length and breadth of America to give Americans a clear and honest view of our vision for what America can be now and what it can be in the 21st century," said Kemp.

Dole has complained repeatedly that Clinton is not serious about fighting illegal drug use. He points to new statistics showing that use of marijuana, LSD and cocaine more than doubled since 1992 among youths aged 12 to 17.

"If I am elected president of the United States, America will once again set about the business of winning the war on drugs," Dole told the annual convention of the National Guard Association in Washington on Sunday. "I will get the guard back where it belongs — in the forefront."

The National Guard, part of the U.S. military, is often called on to help with domestic problems such as natural disasters and civil unrest.

The administration's top drugfighter said the government already was doing much of what Dole proposed.

"A lot of good thinking, most of it we're already doing," National Drug Control Policy Director Barry McCaffrey said in an interview. "We'll examine closely his ideas, but to be honest, most of what be says we're focused on already."

Dole's plan calls for using existing military capabilities to combat the illegal influx of banned drugs, often with the national guard acting on its own or providing equipment or training to local and state authorities.

If his own get-tough measures didn't work, Dole said, he would consider making the active-duty military the lead agent in stopping drugs from coming across American borders. "That would be a step, a break from the past," Dole said. The National Guard can be used now because it is under state control.

McCaffrey, a retired army general, said the idea of using guardsmen for cleaning up drug labs "is something we're considering."

In an interview taped Saturday and broadcast Sunday on CBS' "60 minutes," Dole suggested that he has rethought his past comments on cigarette smoking. "Let's say it is addictive. It's a bad habit. You shouldn't do it." Dole raised a firestorm earlier this year saying tobacco was not addictive for all people.

(AFP)

Blair to Campaign for Separate Welsh Assembly

BARRY, Wales — Opposition Labour Party leader Tony Blair said to campaign for a separate Welsh Assembly during a referendum on the subject to be staged if the party wins the next general election.

At a meeting here during a regional tour ahead of the elections to be held before next spring, Blair said he firmly believed in greater autonomy for Wales, and expected all Labour members of Parliament to go along with him.

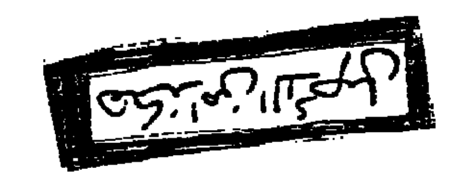
The Labour leader has in the past been accused of being more lukewarm towards devolution of power to the Welsh than to the scots.

On Saturday the Scottish executive of the party approved after some dissension Blair's decision to grant Scotland an assembly and separate legislative powers, including tax-raising, only if a referendum approved it.

The last referendum on devolution for Wales, held under the previous Labour government in 1979, produced an overwhelming "no" vote on a turnout of only 60 percent.

Blair denied allegations that be was acting dictatorially and accused the ruling conservatives of dirty tricks.

(AFP)



Ecologists Rail as Work Starts on Lakeside Homes for Saudi Royals

GENEVA — Work has begun in woods adjoining the palace of Saudi King Fahd here to build a complex of lavish mansions for members of his entourage, despite frantic efforts by local ecologists to stop the scheme.

The controversial project has been the object of a bitter legal battle for more than a year, ever since the king was given permission in April 1995 to build the villas, each covering 700 square meters and connected by underground tunnels wide enough for the royal limousines.

The first trees have already been uprooted and Swiss entrepreneur Jean-Jacques Jacquet said he "wanted to finish the work before the winter."

The king's immediate neighbor, Geneva lawyer Bernard Ziegler said the courts had still to rule on several appeals by opponents of the project.

He called on the local authorities to order an "immediate halt to the work", which he protested had been allowed to go ahead during the summer break.

The problem is that the local government is still on holiday and, what is more its members include the king's architect and his lawyer.

King Fahd ibn Abdul-Aziz has never spent a single night in the palace he built 12 years ago on the shores of Lake Geneva. Although it has many reception rooms and has been expanded with an extra floor, it is still too small for the king's large entourage.

In their fight to stop the scheme, neighbors and nature lovers invoked the terms of the last will and testament of the former owner of the land, an Alsatian ecologist who died in 1977 aged 91 after living for years in a dilapidated old house, with 30 cats.

On his death, he left the 12 hectares (30 acres) of woods to the local Animal Welfare Society (SPA), on the express condition "that nothing be built there for 80 years".

On the assumption that the forest was not suitable for building, the SPA auctioned the land which was bought for six million Swiss francs by a lawyer acting for Anne-Marie Latsis, the daughter of a Greek businessman close to King Fahd.

Local people first became concerned on learning that Latsis was prepared to rent or concede her land to her neighbor King Fahd so he could provide fitting accommodation for his relatives and courtiers.

The authorities agreed in April 1995 to grant a permit to build on the land. They said that though under the terms of the land sale, Latsis was "legally bound to consider the property as a forest" the local government considered that "this does not prevent the construction of the villas".

A Geneva government official denied that Fahd had benefitted from a special favor and said the Saudi king "is being treated like any other citizen". The assertion failed to convince the locals.

The press which is closely following the efforts of local officials to satisfy both the local "greens" and the Saudi leader, has reported that to compensate for the woodland to be destroyed, the Saudis had promised to plant new trees on five hectares (12 acres) of land they owned in Geneva and to "rehabilitate" a stream popular with local residents.

Fahd has also donated $140,000 to the Canton Forestry Fund, through the Sgi Ingenerie, the company which won the $30 million contract to build the villas. Sgi Ingenerie just happens to be owned by the father of Latsis, who has kept part of the land to be used for building in her own name.

Ownership of the 33 hectares (82 acres) concerned is thus split among the king, the Saudi kingdom and Latsis.

(AFP)

Archaeologists Discover 2,000-Years-Old Mayan City

CAMPECHE, Mexico — A Mayan city more than 2,000 years old has been discovered in southeastern Mexico, National Institute of Anthropology and History archaeologists reported recently.

Archaeologist Florentino Garcia Cruz said the unnamed site is located near the village of Santa Rosa, in the state of Campeche, some seven kilometers (4.4 miles) from the border with Guatemala.

Pottery samples enabled scientists to determine that the city was inhabited between 300 BC and 600 AD.

The northern part of the three square kilometer (1.2 square mile) site is composed of a one hectare (2.47 acre) central plaza with, on one side, a vast acropolis with a 160 meter (528- foot) base and seven meters (23 feet) high.

Two stone tablets with bas-relief sculptures of ball players were found in the central plaza.

Some 16 structures of different sizes were found on the hill, some of them 20 meters (66 feet) high.

The southern portion features a pyramidal structure, 70 meters (230 feet) wide and 35 meters (115 feet) high.

Archaeologists also found structures 150 meters (495 feet) long, 110 meters (363 feet) wide and 16.5 feet (five meters) high on the eastern and western sides.

Experts compared the new site's importance with that of neighboring sites in Edzna and Becan sites, also in Campeche.

(AFP)

Netscape, IBM Announce Navigator for OS/2

WASHINGTON — Netscape Communications and IBM have announced the development of an OS/2 speech-enabled version of Netscape Navigator software to access the World Wide Web.

Netscape, the leading Internet software maker, said the availability of a native OS/2 version of Navigator will broaden the scope of content currently available to OS/2 customers via the Internet.

A test version of Netscape Navigator for OS/2 is scheduled to be available in September. It was expected to hit store shelves shortly after the launch of a new generation of IBM's operating system OS/2, Warp 4, in the United States on September 25.

Incorporating speech recognition software and Sun Microsystem's Java technology, OS/2 Warp 4 will offer users some of the industry's most advanced Internet capabilities, the companies said.

With Navigator for OS/2, Netscape will have the potential of capturing a market of 14 million computers worldwide, Netscape Chief Executive Officer James Barksdale said in a conference call news conference.

Netscape versions in languages other than English will also be made available, simultaneously with the release of OS/2 Warp 4 adopted to each language.

(AFP)

Gilan Regional Electricity Company Achievements and Objectives

Imam Khomeini: This is our duty and the responsible authorities' to serve people, to sympathize their grief, to share their joys and problems.

Safe power suppply and developing maneuver capabilities of 20 kv feeders in the most populated central areas have always been two problems in the way of regional electricity companies. To remove the same problem in central Rasht, which has witnessed a sharp increase in load rate in recent years — due to its traditional complexion — Gilan Regional Electricity Company (GREC) planned to build a 63/20 kv substation with a capacity of 2 x 30 mWa and with 12 output feedersih in central Rasht. The executive operations of the substation began from the second half of 1372 calender year (1993-1994) and became operational recently.

It should be mentioned that the substation is fed with a 63 kv underground single-line double-circuit cable, costing over 4,230 million rials budgeted by Gilan Regional Electricity Company.

During the Government Week 1,955 families in 31 villages of Gilan Province were supplied with electricity by the Gilan Power Distribution Company. The operation cost some 5,939,982,000 rials all of which bugdeted by the state credits.

The executive operations of the following projects are accomplished by Gilan Regional Electricity Company:

1- Astara 230/63/20 kv substation

2- Central Rasht 63/2 kv substation

3- Masal 63/2 kv substation

4- Manjil 132/20 kv substation

5- Masal-Ziahar double-circuit 63 kv transmission line

6- Ponel-Taqideezeh inlet and outlet 230 kv transmission line in Astara substation

The aforementioned projects totally cost over 50 billion rials all of which was fulfilled by Gilan Regional Electricity Company's credits. The executive operations for the said projects were performed by Gilan Nirou, affiliated to GREC.

The most outstanding projects under progress by Gilan Regional Electricity Company:

1- Creation of Astara 230/63/20 kv substation

2- Creation of 400/230 kv substation of Gilan combine cycle power plant

3- Creation of central Rasht 63/20 kv substation

4- Creation of Koochesfahan 63/20 kv substation

5- Complete redevelopment of Manjil 138/20 kv substation

6- Creation of Masal 63/20 compact substation

7- Creation of Lahijan II 63/20 kv substatien

8- Creation of Amlash 63/20 kv substation

9- Creation of Deilaman 63/20 kv substation

10- Inlet and outlet of 230 kv transmission line of Ponel Gas Power Plant in central Rasht substation.

11- Creation of 230 kv double-circuit transmission line of Ponel Combine Cycle Power Plant.

12- Creation of Koochesfahan-Lahijan-central Rasht 63 kv double-circuit transmission line

13- Creation of central Rasht 63 kv double-circuit transmission line to cover Rasht II.

14- Creation of Looshan-Deilaman 63 kv transmission line

Gilan Regional Electricity Company shoulders the responsibility of generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in the province with a land area of 147,11 square kilometers populated with over 2,400,000 people. The electricity is distributed in the province by Gilan Power Distribution Company.

Almost 516,249 subscribers in Gilan Province consumed an annual energy of 2,012,794 mWh in 1995. By the end of 1995 almost 1500 villages were supplied with electricity.

A synopsis of Gilan Nirou Company's achievements

In tandem with the latest development policies of the country to optimize specialties and qualifications of Gilan Regional Electricity Company's personnel, and with close cooperation and endeavors of Engineer Lavaei, managing director og GREC, 'the contracting company of construction and installations services for transmission and distribution of Gilan electricity' was founded under the name of Gilan Nirou in April-May 1372 (1992-1993).

The preliminary steps for the establishment of Gilan Nirou were taken at the beginning of 1991 and on May 17, 1991, the company was registered under Reg. No. 89315 in the Tehran Company Registration Unit.

Gilan Nirou enjoys expert personnel who were once active in GREC in the same field as today, in transmission lines, substations and foundation affairs.

President Hashemi Rafsanjani: Let me assure you that the Great Leader of the Revolution is satisfied with your valuable efforts in power industry.

At present, according to contracts concluded based on tenders won by Gilan Nirou, the company is materializing some strategic projects for Gilan Regional Electricity Company.

The following outline the projects under progress by Gilan Nirou:

A- Regarding the installation of high-pressure substations, the company has accomplished projects as Khowachagin Khomam (northern Rasht) 230 kv substation, development of Ponel 230 kv substation and development of 63 kv substations of Hashtpar and Chahoksar.

B- As in the field of transmission lines and over-distribution, projects including tower installation and wiring of combine cycle power plant 230 kv transmission line to northern Rasht substation, execution of inlet and outlet lines of Kalachai substation, redeveloping Ponel takeoffs to Chooka and Sume'-Sara substations and execution of 63 kv transmission line from northern Rasht to Lasht Nesha have materialized by the company.

C- On construction and foundation fields, projects as Ziahar-Masal foundation, northern Rasht-Koochesfahan 63 kv foundations and 230 kv foundations of combine cycle power plant to northern Rasht substations are outstanding examples.

Construction works of Gilan Nirou include: Establishment of building and foundation of Lahijan II substation, walling Koochesfahan substation and redevelopment of Ponel and Hashtpar substations.

D- Regarding distribution activities this company has concluded contracts with Gilan Power Distribution Company to establish power networks of Ali-Bast, Baz-Qaleh Dezh and Nasrollah-Abad villages.

Apart from the present activities, creation of Iran Poplin high-voltage substation, Loushan Post University, southern Rasht substation, Rostam-Abad 132/20 kv substation have been completed by the company. Also in the field of transmission lines and power posts, 63 kv transmission line of Chaboksar-Langrood with a length of 60 kilometers, creation of inlet and outlet lines of 230 kv combine cycle power plant are to be considered as the company's bachground.

All the foundations related to the transmossion lines are undertaken by Gilan Nirou.

Furthermore in addition to control chamber and foundations of the aforesaid substations, various administrative and residential buildings such as Looshan, Roodbar, Anzali, Hashtpar, Fooman and Sume'-Sara are all erected by the company.

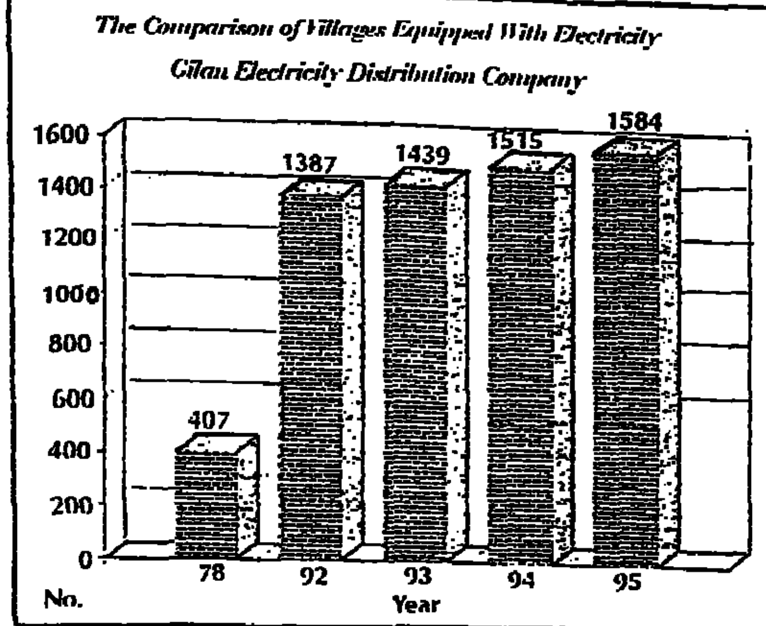
Gilan Nirou enjoys a highly experienced staff in testing and bringing into operation of substations and designing power circuits. Also making use of the modern mapping equipment, the company offers all engineering services in the field.

51 % of the total shares of Gilan Nirou (J.S.P), which is an independent company affiliated to the Ministry of Energy, is owned by the employees of Gilan Regional Electricity Company.

Organizing the technical and experienced personnel and benefitting years-long experience on counseling, designing, installation and execution of high-voltage substations, transmission and distribution lines, creation of buildings and foundations, Gilan Nirou has well played its pivotal role in the construction of the country, specially in Gilan Province.

Noting the fact that Gilan Nirou owns a considerable amount of shares of power distribution companies of Gilan Province, the company takes hold of facilities owned by those factories to better its services and fulfill its responsibilities.

Relying on the Almighty's help and incessant efforts of the employees, Gilan Nirou expresses hope to bolster its endeavors in power and water industries to meet the region's needs.





Monopolists of Terrorism in the World

PART 4

By Sardar Amanullah Khan Niazi
Advocate, High Court, member of executive committee Lahore High Court BAR.

The Zionist state of Israel, the "most famous foster child" of UN was in fact conceived, planned and brought into being on the Palestinians' land in 1948 by the maneuvered efforts of the U.S. through a UN-sponsored partition plan. Needless to say that Israel is the first post-World War II state to be achieved bastardly through acts of violent terrorism. Its making involved ethnic cleansing on areas deemed essential to form the future Jewish state by a systematic bloody pogrom unleashed by the Westerners against the Palestinians. The West openly supported the creation of Israel. The irony of fate is that the bad guys are now crying as "victims" of the same brand of terrorism which they had themselves initiated and let loose against the Palestinians in the holy land.

The U.S. and Israeli spy satellites and spy planes hovering in the space round-the-clock thousands of miles over the heads of comparatively weaker sovereign states are regularly surveying and monitoring all kinds of palpable activities on the earth, including the nuclear and military exercises. "Nowhere is safe, not even our bathrooms from the terroristic spying of the superpower", insinuated a scientist in Labors. Israel's military spy satellite Ofek-3 (horizon), combining the best findings of the American and Russian technologies in its spy Ofek-3 program, linked with Pentagon's strategic planning, can now effectively monitor everything in the Arab world, Iran and Pakistan. Israel can use the Ofek-3 to direct its nuclear missiles to hit any spot in the Arab world, Asia and Africa. In 1962, a U.S. Air Force U-2 spy

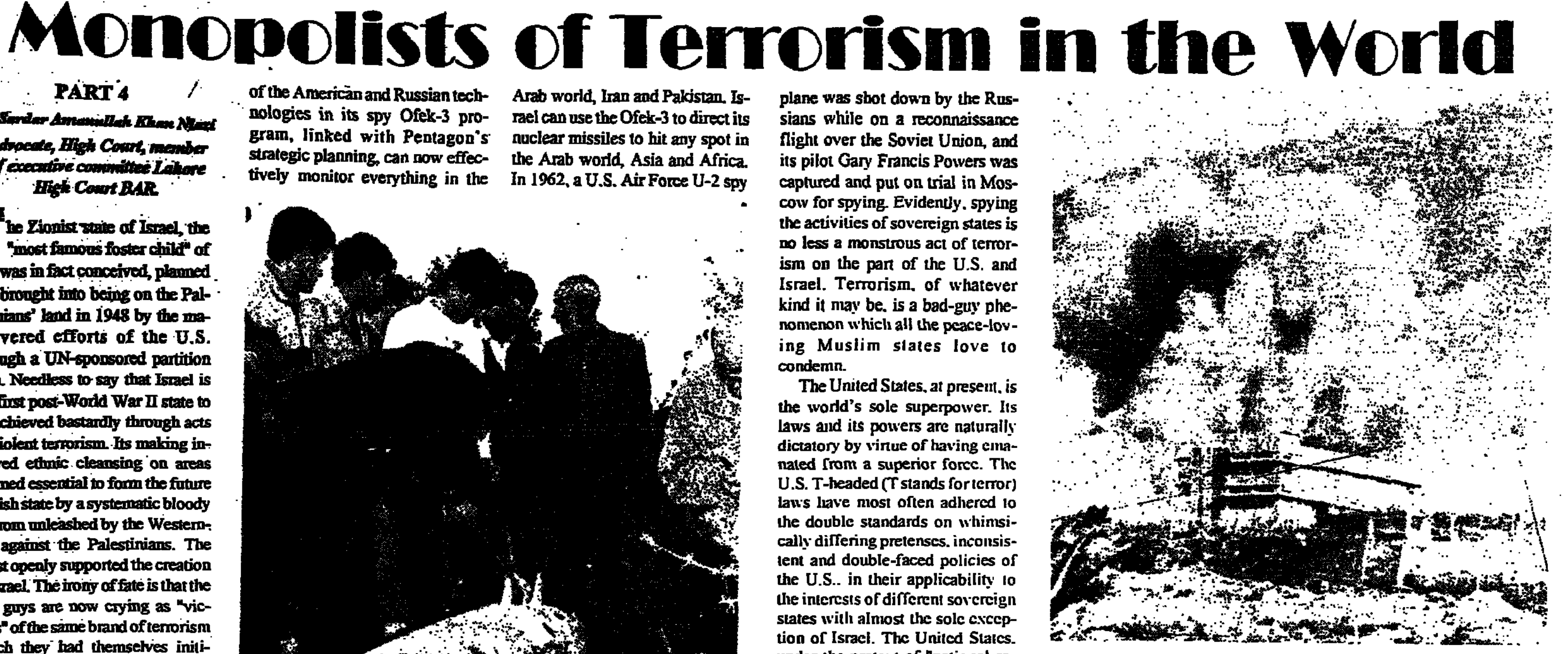


LEBANON: Lebanese residents inspect an unexploded 1,000 kg bomb that was dropped from an Israeli jet over Baalback.

(AFP PHOTO)

plane was shot down by the Russians while on a reconnaissance flight over the Soviet Union, and its pilot Gary Francis Powers was captured and put on trial in Moscow for spying. Evidently, spying the activities of sovereign states is no less a monstrous act of terrorism on the part of the U.S. and Israel. Terrorism, of whatever kind it may be, is a bad-guy phenomenon which all the peace-loving Muslim states love to condemn.

The United States, at present, is the world's sole superpower. Its laws and its powers are naturally dictatory by virtue of having emanated from a superior force. The U.S. T-headed (T stands for terror) laws have most often adhered to the double standards on whimsically differing pretenses, inconsistent and double-faced policies of the U.S., in their applicability to the interests of different sovereign states with almost the sole exception of Israel. The United States, under the pretext of "national security interests", refused to deliver the planes ordered and paid for by Libya in early 1980s. In the same manner, on the ground that "Pakistan has violated the U.S. law", the U.S. refused to perform the F-16s sale-contract transacted between both the countries about ten years ago, although all the payment to the tune of $658 million had since been made to the U.S. But, on the other hand, the U.S. unscrupulously continued all sorts of its military supplies, including F-16s, to the Jewish state uninterruptedly. The United States, at its liberty and in accord with the high-blown temperament of a superpower, throws a net around a country to be labeled as a narco-nation, a terrorist or rogue state, a dangerous country for international peace, a state posing threat to the U.S. interests, or a country involved in developing nuclear weapons, etc, and thereafter clamps economic, social, trade, diplomatic and military sanctions and air, oil or other embargoes upon that state. But, at the same time, the U.S. remains careful and alert to see that all these sanctions and embargoes do not enter within the borders of the Jewish state. The Israelis are allowed by the White House to launch unfretfully any derring-do they liked, maybe a nuclear exercise, any naked aggression, any monstrous act of terrorism or, indeed, any world-annihilating program.

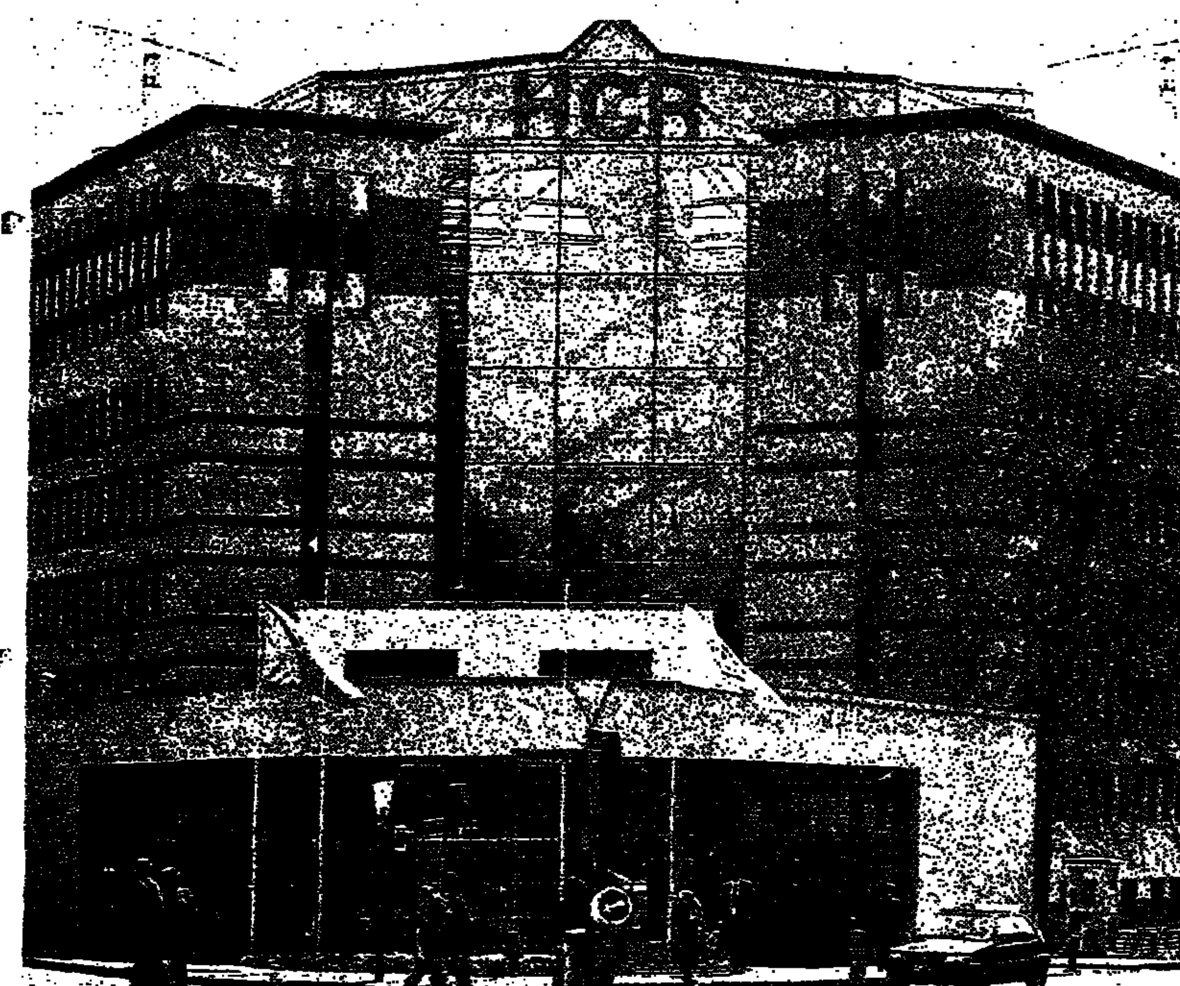


LEBANON: Smoke rises from a Palestinian resident area in Naameh, 20 kilometers south of Beirut, after Israeli warplanes attacked it, killing two and wounding eight others.

(AFP PHOTO)

(To be contd)

A Warm Heart and a Cool Mind -- Assets in Helping People



High Commissioner Sadako Ogata is Often asked what personal traits are required to lead a worldwide humanitarian agency responsible for protecting and assisting millions of often desperate people.

"A warm heart and a cool mind," replies Mrs. Ogata, a former Japanese diplomat and academic who was recently described by one writer as "chief surgeon in the world's emergency room."

Her response reflects the philosophy of an organization that must be compassionate and refugee-focused while at the same time confronting the cold, hard realities of war, massive displacement, "ethnic cleansing," closed borders, growing xenophobia and shrinking resources.

From her modest seventh-floor office in UNHCR's Geneva headquarters, Mrs. Ogata oversees the activities of more than 5,000 staff in some 250 offices in 120 countries. About 950 of those staffers work in Geneva. Their tasks range from all of the basic functions required for the smooth operation of any large corporation, to highly specialized skills needed by camp planners, epidemiologists, water engineers and nutritionists. They include secretaries; lawyers and refugee law specialists; medical personnel; resettlement officers; accountants and finance officers; communications and computer specialists; statisticians and archivists; travel and visa staff; logistics, transport and procurement officers; food aid coordinators; specialists on the environment and women and children refugees; administrative officers; program and budget specialists; field security officers; program coordinators; public information staff; emergency response teams; distribution specialists; desk officers for UNHCR activities in every region of the world, and many others.

Although the paper flow is enormous and days are filled with meetings, reports and phone calls, UNHCR headquarters staff do not generally fit the widely held stereotype of the desk-bound UN bureaucrat. Most have extensive field experience. And for most professional staff, a stint in Geneva lasts no longer than four years, when they once again "rotate" to a field post. At heart and in mind, Geneva staffers are very much field-oriented.

The same applies to Mrs. Ogata, who prefers to re-direct any praise of her leadership to the thousands of UNHCR staff serving in many of the world's most remote and dangerous places. "I'm often asked how I can cope with the enormous human suffering that we must deal with," Mrs. Ogata says. "Of course it's depressing, but the ones who really face it head-on – and who deserve most of the credit – are those people who are out there on the ground doing whatever they can to help refugees. Theirs is not an easy life. It's not me, I'm worried about, it's them."

(Courtesy Refugees)

Polisario Fighters Vow to Resume Struggle If Referendum Isn't Held

ALGIERS, Algeria — An indigenous group seeking independence for western Sahara has vowed to take up arms against Moroccan forces again if a troubled UN referendum doesn't take place, a newspaper reported.

"The Sahrawi people will resume combat until they acquire their national sovereignty" if the vote on the phosphate-rich territory's status is canceled, said Mohamed Abdelaziz, head of the Polisario Front.

The threat came after the United Nations suspended voter registration and reduced its observer mission monitoring a 5-year-old cease-fire.

"If the Sahrawis freely choose to be Moroccans, God help them and Morocco and the 'Moroccan Sahara,' " Abdelaziz told the Algerian daily *Le Matin*.

"But if the Sahrawis choose independence — and we are confident of that second choice — Morocco will have to leave the western Sahara," Abdelaziz said.

Morocco and the Polisario fought for control of the Italy-size territory bordering southern Morocco after Spain left it in 1976.

Since a cease-fire took effect in 1991, the United Nations has been trying to organize a referendum but has been bogged down by bickering by both sides over who should be allowed to vote.

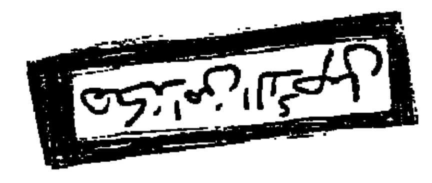
Calling the western Sahara its own, Morocco has invested billions of dollars in the territory, raising the stakes over the referendum's outcome and raising questions over whether Morocco would leave if it lost the vote.

Some Moroccan officials have said privately that the vote may never take place, which would leave Rabat in control of the territory. Western observers question how effective the Algerian-based Polisario, weakened by defections, would be in combat.

In May, the UN Security Council voted to suspend its mission to register the voters after continued disputes over who should be allowed to cast ballots.

The council also voted to cut by 20 percent its 288 member observer mission called MINURSO — United Nations Mission for the Referendum in western Sahara — but to keep the remaining troops in western Sahara until at least Nov. 30.

(AP)



هكذا من الأصل

Two Wars

By Gwynne Dyer
Tehran Times Service

LONDON — As one long war ends in the Philippines, another gets underway in Mexico. Or maybe not.

In Manila, on September 2, Philippines President Fidel Ramos and Nur Misuari, head of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), signed a peace accord that ends 26 years of war by guerrillas seeking a separate state for the Muslim minority on the big southern island of Mindanao. The Philippines, said Misuari last week, are "on the threshold of a just, comprehensive, honorable and lasting peace."

Just four days before, guerrillas of a new Mexican rebel group, the Popular Revolutionary Army (EPR), launched coordinated attacks on army and police posts, in four states that left at least 14 dead and 40 injured. "We don't want war and we don't want to declare it," said an EPR leader known only as Oscar, "but we can't stand idly by in the face of the government's crimes and its impunity."

The EPR is the military wing of the Party of the Revolutionary Worker Clandestine Union of the people/party of the poor, whose name almost literally does say it all. Its goal, straight out of the '60s, is to overthrow the Mexican government and create a socialist state rather to the left of Cuba. Just what Mexico needs. But its chances of success are slim, for it has no ethnic base.

The MNLF in the Philippines dates back to the 60s, too, but it is not Marxist. It is one of the many separatist movements from the Irish Republican Army and the Basque ETA to the Iraqi Kurds and the Tamil Tigers.

It hasn't worked out that way. Of the several dozen separatist movements that set out down this path over the past four decades, only one, Eritrea, has achieved international recognition.

A couple of others — the Turks of northern Cyprus and the separatist clans of Somaliland — loiter in a legal twilight, in control of their territory but economically paralyzed because their independence is recognized by practically nobody. And the vast majority of these movements have made a deal or just been defeated.

The Moros of the southern Philippines were one of the biggest of these separatist movements: An estimated 125,000 people have died in the fighting on Mindanao in the past quarter-century. The like the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and Abu Sayyaf group have 10,000 more.

The Moros are descended from Muslim Malays who settled in the southern Philippines in the 15th century, around the same time that the Spaniards arrived and began Christianizing the rest of the archipelago. Muslims remained a majority in Mindanao, and they retained an autonomous sultanate until 1938. But a flood of post-war immigration by Catholic Filipinos reduced Muslims to minority status in Mindanao. And they took up arms in the early 70s.

In the 70s up to 80 percent of the Philippines Army was deployed fighting the separatists in Mindanao. But Manila conceded Muslim autonomy in principle two decades ago, there was never any prospect of a Moro military victory, and even most Muslims were getting fed up with the war.

So it was times to make peace. The negotiations took three years, but Nur Misuari ends up as chairman of a Southern Philippine Council for Peace and Development, while his troops will be integrated into the Philippines Army.

He will run as the candidate of President Ramos's party for the leadership of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao, a four-province area created in 1989 — and in 1999 there will be a plebiscite in fourteen provinces of southern Mindanao containing large Muslim populations to see who else wants to join the autonomous region. "If he shows he's good as the head of the council," said Ramos's chief negotiator Manuel Yan, "maybe five, ten provinces will agree. If he flops ... no one will vote for him."

The Zapatista guerrillas who shocked Mexico with coordinated attacks across the southern state of Chiapas in early 1995 had an ethnic base in the indigenous Indian population, and a list of grievances that most Mexicans see as justified. The new Mexican government under President Ernesto Zedillo had the sense to start negotiating, and there is unlikely to be more fighting in Chiapas.

But the new guerrillas of the EPR are quite another thing: Marxists fighting for the total overthrow of the Mexican government. That doesn't leave much room for negotiation. It also deprives the EPR of any prospect of widespread public support.

Mexico, unlike the Philippines, is not yet a full democracy, though it has been moving in that direction over the past few years. So there is much impatience with Zedillo's government, which has been compounded by the deep economic crisis of the past two years. But hardly anybody thinks the EPR would be an improvement.

Besides, if ethnic separatist movements had little success in the past few decades, Marxist guerrillas have had even less. They have not won anywhere since Cambodia and Nicaragua in the mid-70s — and in both those places, they subsequently lost again. At worst, the EPR may succeed in damaging Mexico's economic recovery in the short term. But it will not be another 26-year war.



MEXICO: Protesters throw rocks and bottles at police during a demonstration in Mexico City, May 1, 1995 in support for the Zapatista Movement.



MANILA: Riot police baton charge demonstrators following a clash when some 800 protesters tried to break the police cordon.

Okinawa Braces for Historic Vote on U.S. Bases

NAHA, Japan — A year of turmoil in Japan's southernmost prefecture comes to a head next week as Okinawans go to the polls to express their views on the U.S. military presence here for the first time ever.

Annexed by the Japanese in 1879 and occupied by the Americans in 1945, this former kingdom of subtropical islands is now at a new juncture in its turbulent history — whether to support or reject the obtrusive bases which play a crucial role in Asian security and still drive the local economy.

While not legally binding, the referendum next Sunday is being closely watched in Tokyo and Washington, where defense policy planners have been scrambling to make the U.S. presence less offensive following the brutal rape of a 12-year-old Okinawan girl by three American servicemen last year.

The rape, which occurred a year ago this Wednesday, sparked the biggest anti-U.S. protests since Okinawa was returned to Japan in 1972 and prompted some landlords to refuse to renew leases for land used by the U.S. military.

Backed by Okinawa governor Masahide Ota, their refusal has led to a protracted legal battle with the central government in Tokyo. And while the Supreme Court last week ordered him to sign documents forcibly extending the leases, Ota says he won't respond until after the referendum.

Should Ota continue to refuse to sign the documents, as he did following a high court ruling in March, the central government will have to pass a special law to requisition the land, encouraging even more cracks in the already fragile coalition between left and right-wing forces.

National politics, however, appears to be the last thing on Okinawan minds as the islanders gear up for next Sunday's vote, initiated by local trade unions as the first prefectural referendum ever to be held in Japan.

Suzuyo Takazato, a member of the Naha City Assembly who has long been campaigning against the U.S. bases, dismisses Tokyo's barely-disguised bribes of increased aid to Okinawa, where local incomes are only three-quarters of the national average and unemployment is twice as high.

"It's the same kind of lip service you always get before critical issues," she said, referring to a recent visit to Okinawa by Koichi Kato, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Kato, whose party is urging supporters to boycott the referendum, offered such sweeteners as corporate tax breaks.

But while up to 70 percent of Okinawa's 850,000 voters are expected to turn out for the vote, Takazato worries that the wording of the referendum could confuse some people, especially older Okinawans.

Voters are asked to support or oppose a revision of the current Japan-U.S. agreement and a reduction in the U.S. military presence. She fears that many of those who oppose the bases might inadvertently circle the wrong box.

"It's a big problem," she said.

A local banker said he nevertheless doubted whether the anti-base vote would hold sway, noting that revenues from land leases alone come to more than half a billion dollars each year. (AFP)

DPP Faces Split as Rebels Set to Form Radical Party

TAIPEI — Radical members of Taiwan's main opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) plan to break away and form a party to strengthen the campaign for total independence from China.

The two groups, the Taiwan nation-building society and the Taiwanese Association of University Professors, said they would establish the Taiwan nation-building party on December 10.

China has viewed Taiwan as a rebel province since the end of a civil war in 1949 and has repeatedly vowed to attack if the island officially breaks from the mainland. China staged war games off Taiwan before the island's presidential elections in March in a new warning.

The group, which formed a committee last month to prepare the party, accused the DPP of abandoning its goal of pushing for independence.

"We worry about the future of Taiwan and the DPP," said Lin Shan-Tien, head of the New Party's Preparatory Committee and a law professor of National Taiwan University.

He said that after Hong Kong returns to China next year, "the pressure for the so-called Chinese unification will become greater, and it will be bad for us if we cannot keep a strong voice to promote an independent Taiwan."

Li Yung-Chih, a committee spokesman, said growing Taiwanese investment in China has also increased reliance on the mainland and weakened calls for a break. More than 30,000 Taiwan firms have invested $25 billion in China.

Lin said the December 10 launch date had been deliberately chosen to tie in with International Human Rights Day. The party will be launched in Kaohsiung, where 18 years ago, when Taiwan was still under martial law with rallies banned, a human rights march turned into a riot.

The "Kaohsiung incident" became a watershed for Taiwan's pro-independence movement and led to the ending of martial law and the legalization of the nonviolent promotion of Taiwanese independence.

DPP officials rejected accusations that the party was abandoning its pro-independence goal. But there is a growing split between the moderate and radical members over the DPP's future.

"Of course, we support Taiwan independence, which is our major goal. But still we need to adjust ourselves to the political changes at home and abroad," said Secretary General of the DPP, Chiu Yi-Jen.

"In slowly adjusting ourselves, some members and supporters thought we are abandoning our goal. That's not true," he said.

DPP Chairman Hsu Hsin-Liang said policies had previously been geared to promoting Taiwan's independence. But he said, "The DPP has to learn to take care of economic, social, national defense, and foreign affairs."

"Cooperating with other parties does not mean we are giving up our beliefs."

DPP has given MPs permission to cooperate with the ruling Kuomintang and the right-wing New Party on certain bills in the past year, which some radical members saw as a sign of giving up on independence.

DPP radicals have been pushing for a major overhaul since the party's humiliating defeat in the March presidential polls. (AFP)

Indonesian Military Dive

JAKARTA — The Indonesian military Tuesday attempted to divert attention away from the fate of 74 people listed as missing after riots in July saying the "more meaningful" issue was the follow up investigation.

"What we should focus on should not be on seeking those missing, but on how to follow up the case. This is more meaningful," the Antara News Agency quoted the head of the Armed Forces influential Socio-Political Department, Lieutenant General Syarwan Hamid, as saying.

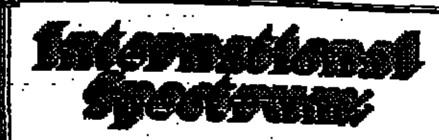
Hamid said that focusing efforts on seeking those reported missing would only "exhaust" people and the real meaning of the case would be lost. He did not elaborate.

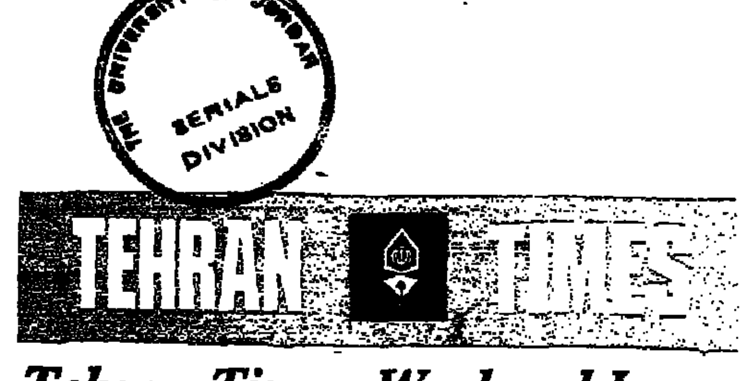
He told the press after opening a seminar at the military headquarters that people should react to the preliminary findings of the National Commission on Human Rights "with a clear head" to prevent "inaccurate" interpretations of commission's findings.

On Saturday, the National Commission on Human Rights released the preliminary findings of its investigation into the riot which said five people died, 74 were missing and 149 were injured during and in the aftermath of the riots.

The military says only four people died and 28 were injured during the riot. The military has provided no official number of missing.

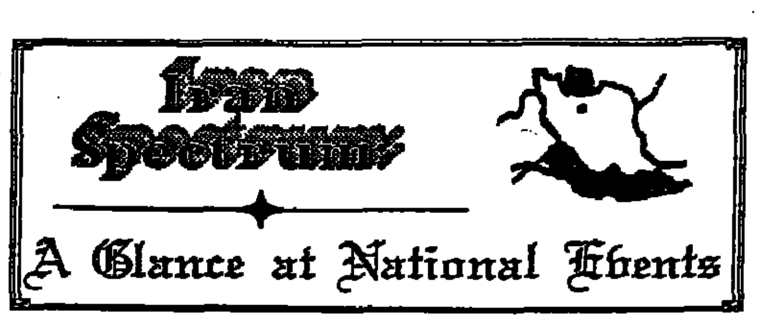
On Monday Hamid dismissed the missing as a "normal" consequence, adding that "maybe they went traveling." (AFP)





Tehran Times Weekend Issue

THU, SEP. 5, 1996; SHAHRIVAR 15; RABIUL-SANI 20, 1417



The World This Week

World News

Wednesday August 28

Iraqi Crisis Averted Over Weapon Inspections

UN envoy Rolf Ekeus said after talks here Wednesday that a crisis over Iraq's obstruction of weapons inspections had been averted, but he suspected Iraq was still hiding ballistic missiles.

Charles and Diana Are Divorced



An anonymous legal clerk's official rubber stamp Wednesday ended one of the world's more glamorous marriages as the prince and princess of Wales, living apart for four years, went their legally separate ways.

Protestors Angry at Okinawa Ruling



Several hundred protestors demonstrated outside the Supreme Court building in Tokyo Wednesday after the governor of Okinawa was ordered to sign documents forcibly renewing U.S. base leases.

Police Raid 23 Universities Nationwide



South Korean police launched pre-dawn raids on 23 universities countrywide Wednesday and hauled off 347 students for questioning in connection with last week's violent campus protests, police said.

Arafat Calls For Strike Over Israeli Settlements

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Wednesday described as a "declaration of war" Israeli moves to expand Jewish settlements and called on Palestinians across Israel and the occupied territories to launch a general strike in protest.

Thursday August 29

143 Die in Russian Plane Crash

A Russian passenger plane with 143 people aboard crashed into mountain on a Arctic island in northern Norway leaving no survivals.

Democratic Convention Ends

The Democratic national convention ended late Thursday with a traditional deluge of confetti and red-white-and-blue balloons, after President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore accepted their nomination for a second term in office.

Eleven Die in Massive Mudslide in Malaysia

Rescuers digging through mud and debris found the bodies of 11 Malaysians after a massive mudslide swamped a remote northern aboriginal settlement leaving 37 others missing, police said.

Re-Opening of Salang Highway Bolsters Peace Hopes

After three years of closure due to factional fighting, journalists Thursday afternoon observed the official reopening of northern Afghanistan's Salang highway, a symbol of improved peace prospects here.

Friday August 30

UN Condemns Serb Siege of Police Station

The United Nations said Friday it was "outraged and disgusted" by the six-hour siege of a UN police station in eastern Bosnia by a mob of angry Serbs.

Al-Qods Braces for Palestinian Prayer Protest

Israeli troops deployed in force Friday, bracing for possible unrest as 100,000 Palestinians were expected to heed a call by Yasser Arafat to pray in Bait-ul-Moqaddas in support of Palestinian claims to the holy city.

Quarter Century of Conflict Ends in Philippines



The Philippines government and Muslim activists on Friday initialled a landmark peace accord to end a quarter of a century of conflict which has left 120,000 dead.

Saturday August 31

Iraqi Army Enters Kurdish City After Massive Dawn Attack



Iraqi forces burst into the main Iraqi Kurdish city of Arbil on Saturday for the first time in five years under a barrage of tank and heavy artillery fire, opposition groups and witnesses said.

Russian, Chechens Sign Landmark Peace Deal

Russian national security chief Alexander Lebed signed a landmark peace accord with Chechen military commander Aslan Maskhadoc on Saturday, postponing a decision on Chechenya's political status until December 31,2001.

Bosnian Party Ends Boycott Call in Boost for Elections

The troubled elections process in Bosnia appeared heading back on track Saturday after the main Bosnian Muslim party withdrew a boycott call as thousands of refugees in neighboring Croatia prepared to vote.

Chun and Roh Appeal Against Sentences



Disgraced former South Korean President Chun Doo-Hwan on Saturday appealed against his death sentence, his lawyers said, as a poll showed a majority of South Korean are opposed to granting him an amnesty.

New Explosive Traces on TWA Flight 800 Found

Investigators probing the blast that downed TWA Flight 800 have found traces of yet another explosive chemical that may back up suspicions that a bomb caused the plane crash, according to a report.

Sunday September 1

Second Kurdish Town Falls to Iraqi Troops

Iraqi government forces and their Kurdish allies captured the northern Iraqi town of Sulaymaniyah on Sunday, IRNA reported here yesterday.

Colombia Rebel Attacks Kill 50

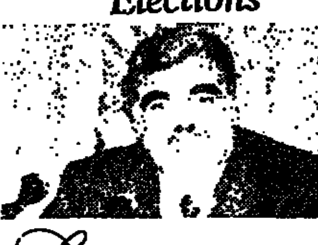
Two Colombian rebel groups attacked police posts and municipal buildings in 11 provinces across the country overnight in the worst series of attacks in recent memory.

Monday September 2

Syria Calls For Sanctions Against Israel

The official Syrian press Monday called for sanctions against Israel which it says violated international resolutions with the "blind support" of the United States.

Hariri Wins Huge Victory in Beirut Elections



Lebanese Prime Minister Rafic Hariri won the largest number of votes in legislative elections, according to unofficial final result released on Monday.

U.S. Remains on Alert Despite Iraqi Withdrawal From Arbil

Iraqi forces have withdrawn from the northern city of Arbil after they and their Kurdish allies captured it from Kurdish rivals two days earlier, a United Nations official told AFP Monday.

Tuesday September 3

U.S. Launches Cruise Missile Attack on Iraq

U.S. Warships and aircraft launched 20 to 30 cruise missiles at air defense targets in Iraq Tuesday in retaliation for an Iraqi military drive into a Kurdish safe haven, military officials said.

Local News

Wednesday August 28

Leader: Iranian Nation Will Once Again Thwart Enemy Plots



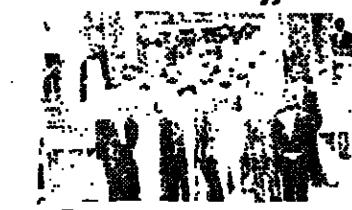
The Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, referring to the recent anti-Iran legislation of the U.S. Congress, said the Islamic nation and government of Iran will once again foiled the enemies' conspiracies through their bravery, perseverance and constructive activities.

Tehran Demands Germany Hand Over Banisadr

Iran is demanding that Germany hand over the former Iranian head of state Abolhassan Banisadr for the hijacking of an airplane by which he fled the country in 1981, German and Iranian officials said Wednesday.

Thursday August 29

Leader Lauds President, Cabinet's Efforts



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei here on Thursday lauded the activities and efforts made by President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and his Cabinet.

Iran, Bangladesh Sign MOU

Iranian and Bangladeshi airlines are to make two weekly flights between Dhaka and Tehran via Dubai and vice versa based on a memorandum of understanding signed in Dhaka on Thursday at Bangladesh Aviation Organization.

Friday August 30

People, Leader's Approval Best Gift for Government

The Friday congregational prayer was held on the campus of Tehran University led by President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani here.

In the first sermon delivered prior to the prayer, the president elaborated on the activities of the government during the past year. He said "To me and the ministers, nothing is more pleasant than the people and Supreme Leader's approval of the measures taken by the government."

Saturday August 31

Leader Pays Tribute to Isfahani Martyred Youths

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, on Saturday paid a personal tribute to the youth and people of Isfahan who were martyred on the battlefronts during Iraq-Iran war years.

Sunday September 1

Speaker Rules Out Amendment to Constitution



Majlis Speaker, Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri, here Sunday said that there will be no amendment to the Constitution to enable President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to run for the third term.

Monday September 2

President Rafsanjani Begins African Tour

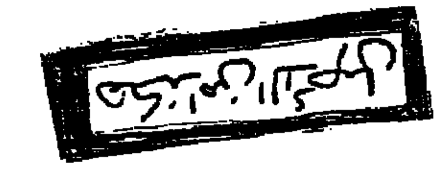
Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani arrived in Kenya Monday at the start of a six-nation tour of Africa.

Tuesday September 3

Boroujerdi Arrives in India

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Pacific Affairs Allaeddin Boroujerdi arrived in New Delhi on Tuesday on a three-day visit to India.

as Rebels Se
ical Party



Happiness May Lie in Your Genes

When it comes the quintessential American passion, the pursuit of happiness, the news from science is mixed.

The good news is that the sting of life's slings and arrows is surprisingly short. The bad news is for vacationers: the mellow glow from a week or two away will fade just as surely.

Happiness, many psychologists are concluding, seems to be largely determined by the genes, not by outside reality. However tragic or comic life's ups and downs, people appear to return inexorably to whatever happiness level is preset in their constitution.

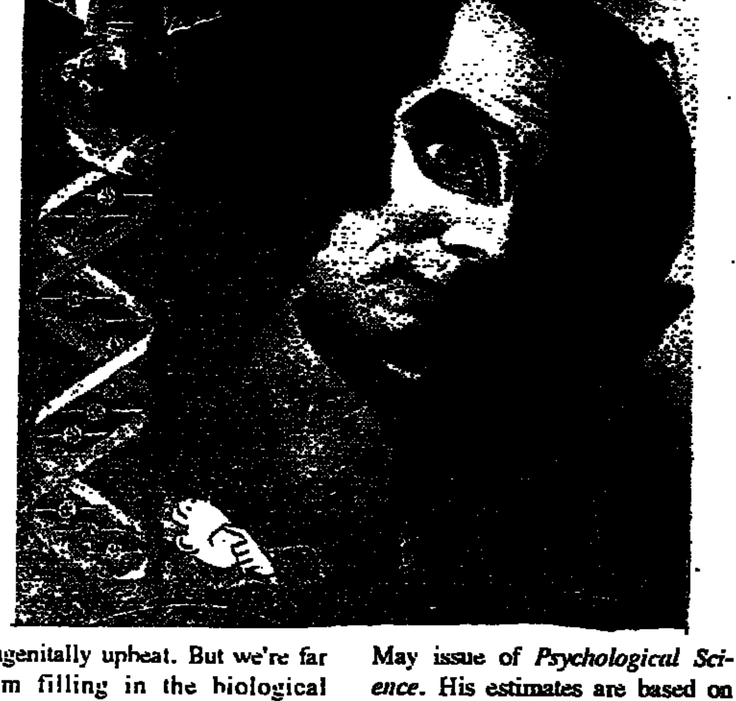
The idea is similar to the set-point concept in weight control, a theory that says the brain seems to be wired to turn the body's metabolism up or down to maintain a preset weight.

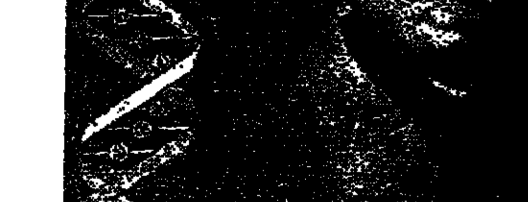
There is also, these scientists contend, a set point for happiness, a genetically determined mood level that the vagaries of life may nudge upward or downward but only for a while. With time, the grouchy tend to become as cranky as before, and lighthearted cheery again.

Interviews with a range of psychologists show that the idea of a biological set point for a sense of well-being has wide support in the field, though there are quibbles on details.

About 50 percent of a person's sense of well-being is due to an inherited set point

"It's a brilliant idea — it's well worth pursuing," said Dr. Jerome Kagan, a developmental psychologist at Harvard University who has studied temperament in children. "It's clear that T.S. Elliot was by nature dour, and Jay Leno is congenitally upbeat. But we're far from filling in the biological blanks."





The set-point idea seems to make sense of long-standing data on happiness that have puzzled researchers. Some of the studies simply take people's word for how happy they are, while others use less direct measures — like observing how exuberant they are. Studies of happiness in several countries have found that money makes little difference to perceptions of happiness, except among the very poor. Nor do education, marriage and a family, or any of the many other variables that researchers have sought to correlate with contentment. Each factor may make a person a little happier, but it has a minor impact, compared with the individual's characteristic sense of well-being.

"We find that for events like being promoted or losing a lover, most of the effect on people's mood is gone by three months and there's not a trace by six months," said Dr. Edward Diener, a psychologist at the University of Illinois at Urbana. Dr. Diener, with his wife, Dr. Carol Diener, also a psychologist there, proposed the notion of a happiness set point in the May issue of the journal *Psychological Science*.

Forget those if-only-I-could-win-the-lottery-I'd-find-happiness-forever fantasies: Dr. Edward Diener also cites data to show that lottery winners are no happier the year after their good fortune than they were before.

The set point concept has been seized by some genetics researchers, who say new data on twins give the strongest support to date for that idea.

"About half of your sense of well-being is determined by your set point which is from the genetic lottery, and the other half from the sorrows and pleasures of the last hours, days or weeks," said Dr. David T. Lykken, a behavioral geneticist at the University of Minnesota, who published results from a study of 1,500 pairs of twins in the May issue of *Psychological Science*. His estimates are based on comparing how members of pairs of fraternal and identical twins rate their sense of well-being.

A common way to estimate how much of a trait is based on genetics is to look at similarities that show up in identical twins, who share their genes 100 percent, compared to fraternal twins who are no more similar genetically than any other siblings.

"There is little difference in well-being among identical twins raised together, compared to raised apart," says Dr. Auke Tellegen of the University of Minnesota, a coauthor of the report with Dr. Lykken. Life circumstances, like salary, education or marital status, predicted only two percent of the variation within each pair of twins, Dr. Lykken said.

"Those in prestigious positions or professions were not happier than those who went to work in overalls, nor were those who finished their PhDs happier than those who never completed eighth grade. You can predict happiness levels vastly better just by knowing the other identical twin's score." Still, doubts remain about the set-point idea. Dr. Howard Weiss, a psychologist at Purdue University, takes issue with Dr. Lykken's estimate that about 50 percent of a person's sense of well-being is due to an inherit set- point.

"A heritability estimate based on a single study has to be viewed with caution," Dr. Weiss said, "Though no one is disputing a part of your satisfaction in life is due to genetic factors, we don't really know yet if it's 25 percent, 50 percent or 75 percent."

The idea that a person's typical mood persists over time has been borne out by data from several large studies that followed people over many years. One is the National Health and Nutrition Examination, which monitored reports of well-being from close to 6,000 men and women over 10 years.

"We find that the people who are relatively happiest now will be the happiest 10 years form now, despite the day-to-day fluctuations," said Dr. Robert R. McCrae, a research psychologist at the National Institute on Aging. Dr. Lykken sees in his data a recipe for living that calls for nudging one's level of happiness into the higher registers of one's range. Dr. Lykken's advice: Be an experiential epicure. A steady diet of simple pleasure will keep you above your set point. Find the small things that you know give you a little high — a good meal, working in the garden, time with friends — and sprinkle your life with them."

In the long run, that will leave you happier than some grand achievement that gives you a big lift for a while.

(Courtesy the New York Times)

Entertaining in Style

LEMON MERINGUE PIE

You will need	6 oz. plain flour 4 oz. butter 1 egg yolk 3/4 oz. castor sugar 2 teaspoons water
Preparation time 3 minutes	*For the lemon filling:* 2 large lemons 1 1/2 oz. cornflour
Cooking time 35 minutes	1/2 pint water 2 egg yolks 3 oz. castor sugar
Oven Setting 400 °F; gas mark 6 350 °F; gas mark 4	*For the meringue topping:* 3 egg whites 5 oz. castor sugar

Make short crust pastry in usual way. Use to line an 8-inch flan ring, placed on a baking sheet. Prick base with a fork and leave in cold place for 20 minutes. Fill with a piece of crumpled foil or greaseproof paper and baking beans. Bake in a hot oven for about 15 minutes. Remove paper and baking beans.

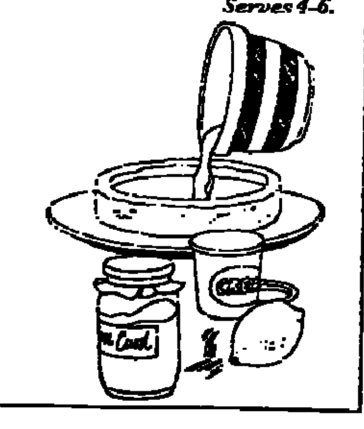
Put grated lemon rind and juice in a bowl with cornflour. Add 2 tablespoons of the water and blend until smooth. Boil remaining water and pour it on to cornflour mixture. Return mixture to pan, bring to boil and simmer for 3 minutes until thick. Remove from heat and add egg yolks and sugar. Cool slightly then spoon into flan case.

Whisk egg whites until they form soft peaks. Add sugar a teaspoon at a time, whisking well after eash addition. Pipe or spoon meringue over lemon filling. Bake in a moderate oven for 15 minutes.

Serves 4-6.

QUICK TIP

Fabulous lemon filling for a sponge flan — lightly whip 1/3 pint double cream, fold in 2 tablespoons home-made lemon curd. Turn into flan case. Chill overnight then decorate with fresh lemon slices.



Answers to Last Week's QUICKIE

Across: 1. Beast 4. Sheep 7. Roc 8. Grape 10. Opine 12. Ringlet 13. Elect 15. Dress 17. Scout 20. Gamma 23. Crusade 24. Inter 25. Venal 26. Ire 27. Titan 28. Leafy

Down: 1. Bugle 2. Aware 3. Trent 4. Scold 5. Elite 6. Press 9. Picture 11. Pervade 14. Lac 16. Sum 17. Shift 18. Octet 19. Turin 20. Gavel 21. Mensa 22. Alloy

The Cup That Brings Cheer

Taken first thing in the morning, tea acts as stimulant which jump-starts your day. It increases levels of alertness and enhances your capacity for sustained intellectual effort.

It has been considered a health drink for centuries, if Chinese folklore and legends dating back some 2,000 years are to be believed.

Some 10 percent of the solid material extracted from tea leaves when they are boiled with water is caffeine. But the caffeine content of tea is much less than that found in coffee or colas. Some doctors now say that children will benefit more from tea than colas, so suggest it as far more health-giving alternative.

There is no need to have tea hot. Iced lemon tea is a refreshing and cool drink for the hotter months. What's more important is that tea has several other beneficial qualities. For one, it contains fluoride and is considered good for the teeth and gums. For another, tea with ginger or basil forms a popular home remedy for coughs and colds.

Tea also has the unique ability to fight food borne bacteria and that is the main reason why doctors so readily suggest light tea for patients suffering from dysentery and diarrhea.

In recent years, medical research has found that people who were drinking more than four cups of tea daily were less prone to heart disease than others who were not or were having less.

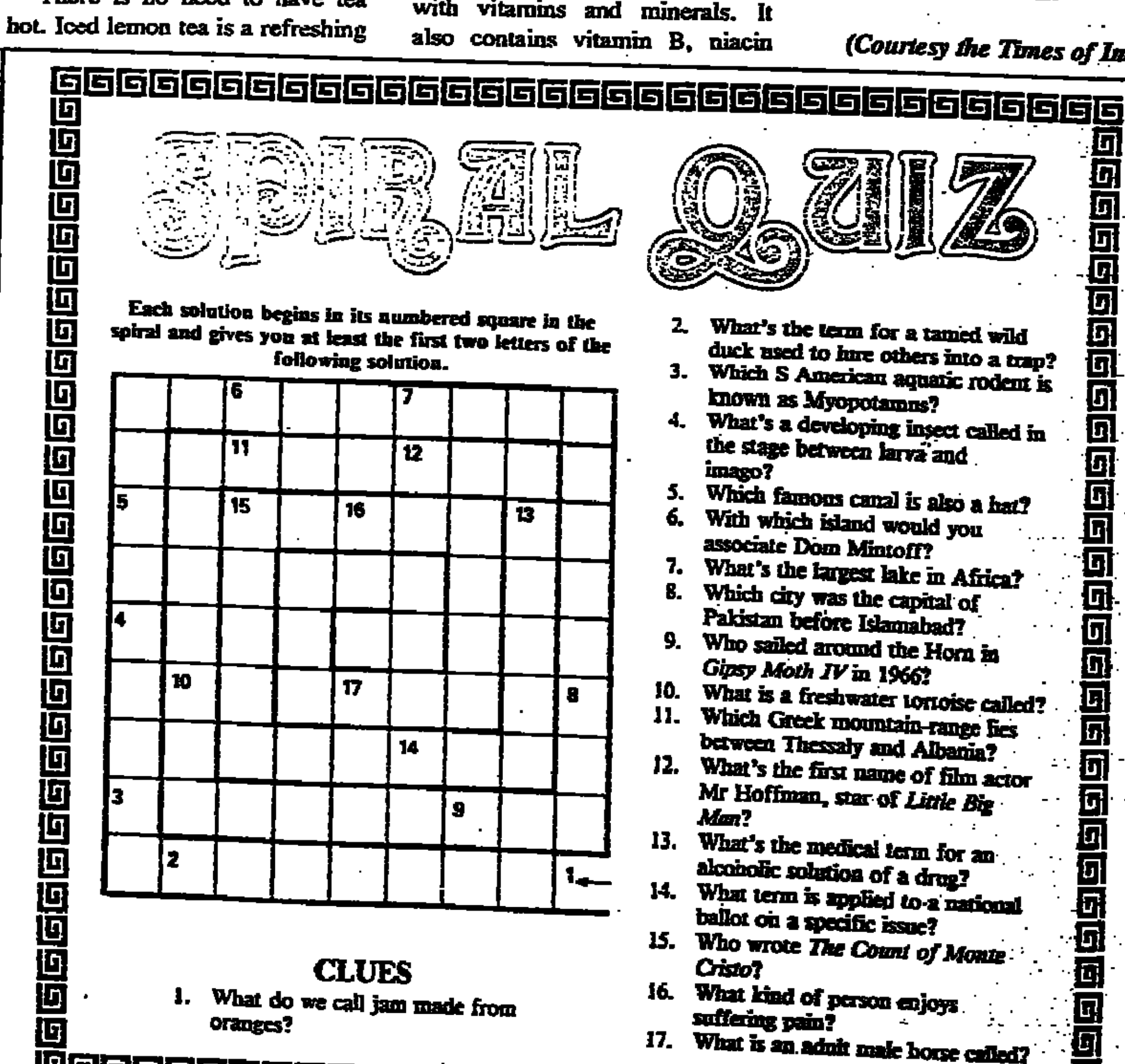
Tea is believed to be replete with vitamins and minerals. It also contains vitamin B, niacin and potassium.

Tea is popular round the year — it doesn't matter whether the climate is hot or cold, a cup of tea is always welcome. It acts as a pick-me-up at any time of the day.

Cheesed Off?

Cheese can be terribly fattening, but it is high in proteins and calcium and if you are not obese, have no history of hypertension, cholesterol and are not on the wrong side of 30, there is really no reason to avoid it. Besides it also contains vitamins, phosphorus and other minerals.

(Courtesy the Times of India)



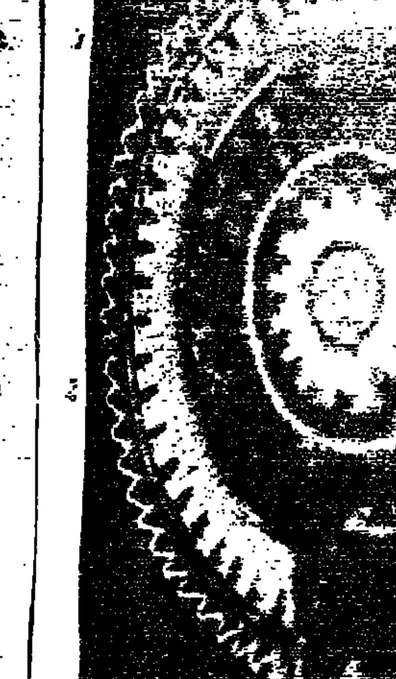
SPIRAL QUIZ

Each solution begins in its numbered square in the spiral and gives you at least the first two letters of the following solution.

CLUES

1. What do we call jam made from oranges?
2. What's the term for a tamed wild duck used to lure others into a trap?
3. Which S American aquatic rodent is known as Myopotamns?
4. What's a developing insect called in the stage between larva and imago?
5. Which famous canal is also a hat?
6. With which island would you associate Dom Mintoff?
7. What's the largest lake in Africa?
8. Which city was the capital of Pakistan before Islamabad?
9. Who sailed around the Horn in *Gipsy Moth IV* in 1966?
10. What is a freshwater tortoise called?
11. Which Greek mountain-range lies between Thessaly and Albania?
12. What's the first name of film actor Mr Hoffman, star of *Little Big Man*?
13. What's the medical term for an alcoholic solution of a drug?
14. What term is applied to a national ballot on a specific issue?
15. Who wrote *The Count of Monte Cristo*?
16. What kind of person enjoys suffering pain?
17. What is an adult male horse called?

(Solution Next Thursday)



Feature

Spotlight: Pakistan

A Tradition of Creativity

Tehran Times Service

Making mats and baskets, one of the oldest crafts learned by man, is also one of the most widely practised in Pakistan. For centuries *chatai* (mat) has been used in this country to serve as a prayer rug, floor covering, wall, and numerous other purposes. Likewise, baskets have been used to carry goods, store food and serve meals. In the Indus Valley civilization, reed mats were used for ceilings and baskets were used by potters to set their moulds. During the intervening centuries men and women in villages have perfected the art of giving rushes, raffia, reed, date palm, etc., shapes and colors of such irresistible beauty that even those who do not need a *changair* to keep bread would like to hang it in the drawing room to lend a distinct charm to the overall scheme of interior decoration. The techniques and styles of workmanship are as varied as the raw materials available in the different parts of the country.

A *changair* and a *pitari*

Rushes and *kana* (reed with core of soft pith) grow in abundance along the banks of Pakistan's rivers and both are put to numerous uses. In the past rushes and reeds constituted the principal raw material for constructing village cottages in the plains and desert regions. Such cottages can still be seen in some areas, and where peasants have built mud brick houses the traditional fodder silo has a roof of twined rushes. But today the most common use of rushes is to make prayer mats and runners. The craft is practised by both men and women, in many cases as a whole time vocation and in others to fill hours of idleness between farming chores. The style of weaving is generally very simple. A couple of split rushes are taken and used as weft to cross the warp threads, first going under a certain number of warps and then going over an equal number. By varying the number of warp threads in the two stages of crossing some craftsmen weave geometric patterns into the mats. A wooden frame is used to set the weft. Finally the ends sticking out on the sides are woven to form firm edges. The thick, soft mats so produced can stand rain and sunshine and are widely used in mosques. They can also serve the poor's need for a bedding, as a carpet to squat upon, and as dining mat.

The *kana* is used to create a greater variety of articles. The thicker reed is twined to make *moorhas* (stools or chairs with backs and arms). The body consists of a double row of twined reeds and the seat and edges are bound with cord. The more affluent would often sew leather or deer skin on the seats and edges. A more common use of thick reeds is in chicks, curtains for windows and verandahs, which are particularly favored in summer because of their resistance to heat.


A *changair* (straw mat in bright colors)

A modern style is to use reed chicks in place of wood paneling in homes and restaurants. The thinner reeds are used to make baskets for storing grain and dates, *chhaj* (winnowing basket), boxes for keeping clothes, the gypsy children's rattle and several other toys.

Also found in wild growth along river banks is *moonj* (raffia). The two outer stalks are dried in the sun and are then beaten into thin fiber. The *moonj* string is useful in scores of ways. The seat of the moorha and the traditional cot, *charpai* is generally made of it. It is also woven into large net-baskets needed to carry goods on animals. In the northern regions *moonj* baskets are quite common. At one time moonj sandals were widely worn in these areas. Even now stylishly shaped sandals of exceptionally fine *moonj* can be seen in the markets of Peshawar. They make good slippers on beaches.

Ropes and cords are also made of date palm, hemp and jute. Village craftsmen make excellent nets of string to serve as mouth-lock for animals, and *chheekas*. Once *chheeka* was made only to keep food out of the reach of cats and dogs but now it has become popular with urban people as a hanger for flower pots and decoration plates.

Large basket *tokras* made of branches of trees and cotton-plant stem can be seen throughout Pakistan. They are used to carry loads over long distances and by construction workers to carry bricks and sand. At fruit and vegetable shops they are used to keep and display the various commodities in eye-catching arrangements. The best and the most durable baskets are made of mulberry branches. These are also used to make the essential structure of the cone-shaped goat-hair baskets used by the Kalash women to carry children and goods on their backs.

While thicker branches are woven in a simple style considerable artistic imagination is employed when very thin twigs are woven into small baskets. The most intricately designed pieces are the Kashmiri *kangris* (baskets woven around earthen fire-pots which women can tuck under their shawls to keep warm). The twigs are often woven into geometric patterns and decorated with beads, tin foil, and frills in different colors.

Cane and bamboo are also used to produce a wide range of baskets and other utility objects. The raw material is imported but the popularity of the craft has induced a sizable community of craftsmen to remain. But by far the most popular raw materials for mats and baskets are date-palm leaf and wheat straw. Date-palm is coiled and plaited to makes mats and baskets while the common *chatai* is made everywhere to be used as hut-wall or floor covering. Usually the mats are woven in chequered pattern and sometimes a pattern is created by using palm leaves dyed pink or black. Split palm leaves are used to make hand fans. In the villages of Sind and Baluchistan the fans bear a variety of motifs and are heavily embellished with beads—useful during the hot season and attractive as wall decoration.

The craft of making coiled palm ropes and then netting them into sacks thrown across the saddles on donkeys and camels is practised in different parts but the craftsmen of Dera Ismail Khan and Peshawar have achieved the highest distinction in this field.

One of the most attractive items made of date palm is the bread basket. In its simplest form it is *changair*, a flat plate with slightly raised edges for serving bread, fruit, etc.

Wheat straw is likewise used extensively to make large baskets for keeping clothes, grain, and dates, *changairs*, *chhabi*, fruit vendors' basket, etc. Dried wheat stems are peeled to obtain the *teeli* (reed) and fiber. The latter may be plaited like palm-leaf or wrapped around a core of grass to make basket, table mats, bags, etc.

Whatever the material, the most popular form of basketry is the coiled one. The foundation is laid by looping the coil around the central core and building up the spiral, gradually widening the base until the desired shape and size are reached. The coils are fixed with each other by sewing. In many cases coils are held together by wrapping palm leaves or straw around them. In plaited basketry, two or more sets of warps and wefts are crossed.

ROGUE	GROUSE villains
SHARP	Acute HARPS
PREDATOR	TEARDROP attacker
CONIFER	FIR CONE tree
DANCES	Waltzes ASCEND
INITIATED	Started by DIETITIAN
BELOW	Under the ELBOW
EARNING	PAYS HER WAY

Answers to last week's WORD FOR WORD

Newsmaker Profile

The Fujimori Phenomenon

The announcement last week that the Constitution of Peru has been amended to allow President Alberto Fujimori to run for a third term has sparked widespread debate on his dictatorial ambitions.

The longer Alberto Fujimori remains in office, and the firmer his grip on power, the more numerous are the attempts to explain the "Fujimori phenomenon." More than a year after his triumphant reelection his popularity is undiminshed. But critics are concerned about whether his rather ill-defined model of government can continue to operate effectively over the long term.

After six years of unbroken popularity and his reelection by 64 percent of the voters, those who initially believed that his egocentric, essentially anti-institutional style of governing would quickly pall must think again. For the ordinary Peruvians on the street, "Nothing happens here without Fujimori." They have a ready explanation for the Fujimori phonomenon: Alberto Fujimori is the first Peruvian president who delivers what he promises. He has put a stop to the country's economic chaos, and squelched the guerillas; corrupt cliques of traditional politicans have been broken up, the rotten dealings of the old political parties eliminated; a veritable horde of do-nothing bureaucrats has been discharged, and chronically deficit state-owned enterprises have been privatized. Fujimori distributes food to the poor, builds schools and installs pipelines for drinking water. His fame has spread beyond Peru's borders, and wherever he appears in Latin America he is applauded as a star.

In relations with governments of the North, Fujimori has made up for the undemocratic error of the "fujigolpe," the self-engineered internal coup of April 1992 which clouded his reputation in the West for a time. Democratic elections, a formally respected separation of powers and a sharp decline in human rights violations have swept away the last doubts about his regime and have reopened the country to European and American development aid.

Bureaucrats at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund are full of praise for the "model student" Fujimori, who has turned Peru into a textbook example of free-market reforms. Despite initial resistance from special interests, they say Peru's economic policy has been placed on a firm footing, its decades-old interventionist form of state capitalism has been swept aside and the country has been opend to foreign capital.

Finally, after some openly expressed initial disdain, scholars now seem to find Fujimori acceptable, at least as an object of academic curiosity. They want to know what is behind the remarkable success of "fujimorismo" and whether his model of government has any chance of long-term survival.

Fujimori began his time in office as a "political orphan," without a party and without a majority in the two houses of the Peruvian Congress. In consequence it was essential for him to legitimize himself through close ties to the people. The president often boasts about being a practitioner of "direct democracy." To him that means cultivating direct contacts with the citizenry, "without parties and without mediators."

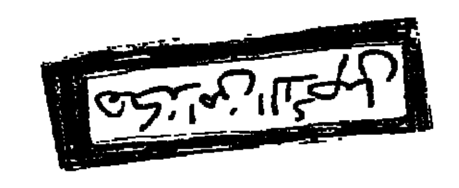

Alberto Fujimori

A consultant for the World Bank, Cheikh Kane, regards this latter attitude as a key to understanding the present Peruvian system. She says that prior to Fujimori's election in 1990, parties worked not for the interests of the people as a whole but only for those of a small elite, manipulating the government and its enterprises as they saw fit, with no accountability. The results were injustice, corruption, and legislation that was often impossible to implement because it was not consonant with the real needs of the people.

The year 1993 brought a critical moment for Fujimori, when his new constitution passed by only an unexpectedly narrow majority in a nation-wide referendum. A comparison of voting results with subsequent flows of government funds confirmed with hard data what observers of the Peruvian scene had long suspected: Following the referendum, social spending unequivocally favored election districts in which Fujimori had lost—with the result that, in the 1995 elections, support for the president increased in many of those locales.

Nowadays no one—not even academics—dares to question the tangible results achievd so far by Fujimori's program of reform and pacification. But some serious questions are being raised about the medium-term chances for survival of the president's authoritarian model of government. David Scott Palmer, a political scientist at Boston University who, as a member of the U.S. Peace Corps, once taught at the University of Ayacucho side by side with Abimael Guzman, founder of the Sendero Luminoso, has coined the pregnant term "Fujipopulism." He points out that, given the specific, virtually hopeless situation in which Peru found itself at the beginning of the 1990s, it is quite understandable why Fujimori's anti-institutional campaign has been so successful thus far.

But the World Bank consultant earlier mentioned maintains the contrary. She emphasizes that a free-market economy must be bolstered by a modern government. And she maintains that President Fujimori will endanger both himself and his social and economic reforms unless he implements a coherent government reform very soon, aimed particularly at decentralization. Instead of basing his government on arbitrary personal power, it is essential that he create efficient institutions. The concentration of power under the present system, she adds, makes the entire structure dependent on the fate of a single individual. (Courtesy of Swiss Review of World Affairs, No. 8, August 1996.)



TODAY IN HISTORY

1969 - Arrests are made in Saudi Arabia following reports of abortive coup.

1972 - Eleven Israeli Olympic athletes, four Palestinian guerillas and a policeman are killed in a 24-hour gun battle at Munich airport.

1977 - Gunmen in West Germany kidnap prominent German industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer and kill four of his bodyguards.

1989 - Hundreds of thousands of blacks begin two-day strike in South Africa on eve of segregated elections.

1991 - Soviet lawmakers approve creation of interim government to usher in new confederation of sovereign states.

1992 - Bobby Fischer starts game 3 of chess match after threatening reporters with a news blackout if they didn't refer to him as world champion.

1993 - Seven Nigerian UN peacekeepers are killed in Somalia.

1994 - In Nigeria, defeated union leaders agree to suspend a two-month-old strike for democracy, hours after thousands of oil workers return to their jobs.

CANDID CAMERA

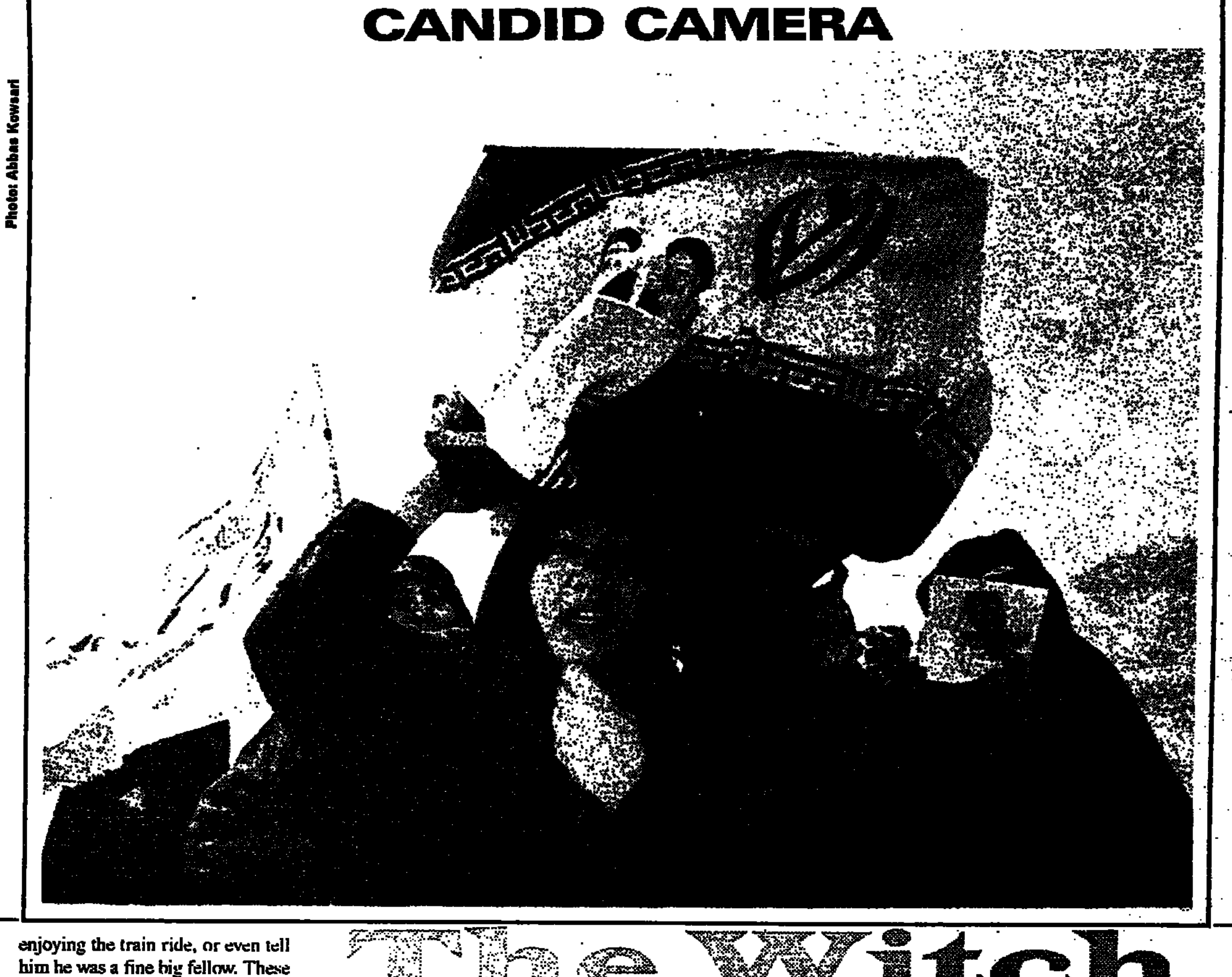


Photo: Abbas Kowsari



TOMORROW IN HISTORY

1966 - Prime Minister Hendrik F. Verwoerd of South Africa is stabbed to death during Parliament session in Cape Town.

1975 - More than 2,300 people are killed by earthquake in eastern Turkey.

1987 - Chadian troops strike into Libyan territory for first time and claim to have annihilated a military air-ground complex.

1988 - Iraq government declares amnesty for anti-government Kurds.

1989 - Cuban airliner crashes into suburb on takeoff from Havana, killing 170 people.

1991 - Soviet Union recognizes the independence of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

1992 - Troops in South Africa fire on ANC supporters near the Transkei homeland, killing 28 and wounding 200.

1993 - Yasser Arafat takes his campaign to sell the PLO-Israeli peace agreement to Egypt after receiving lukewarm support in Syria.

1994 - Irish Premier Albert Reynolds and Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA-allied Sinn Fein party, commit to peaceful settlement in Northern Ireland.

Short Story

The Witch

By Shirley Jackson (1920-1965)

The coach was so nearly empty that the little boy had a seat all to himself, and his mother sat across the aisle on the seat next to the little boy's sister, a baby with a piece of toast in one hand and a rattle in the other. She was strapped securely to the seat so she could sit up and look around, and whenever she began to slip slowly sideways the strap caught her and held her halfway until her mother turned around and straightened her again. The little boy was looking out the window and eating a cookie, and the mother was reading quietly, answering the little boy's questions without looking up.

"We're on a river," the little boy said. "This is a river and we're on it."

"Fine," his mother said.

"We're on a bridge over a river," the little boy said to himself.

The few other people in the coach were sitting at the other end of the car; if any of them had occasion to come down the aisle the little boy would look around and say, "Hi," and the stranger would usually say, "Hi," back and sometimes ask the little boy if he were enjoying the train ride, or even tell him he was a fine big fellow. These comments annoyed the little boy and he would turn irritably back to the window.

"There is a cow," he would say, or, sighing," How far do we have to go?"

"Not much longer now," his mother said, each time.

Once the baby, who was very quiet and busy with her rattle and her toast, which the mother would renew constantly, fell over too far sideways and banged her head. She began to cry, and for a minute there was noise and movement around the mother's seat. The little boy slid down from his own seat and ran across the aisle to pet his sister's feet and beg her not to cry, and finally the baby laughed and went back to her toast, and the little boy received a lollipop form his mother and went back to the window.

"I saw a witch," he said to his mother after a minute. There was a big old ugly old bad old witch outside."

"Fine," his mother said.

"A big old ugly witch and I told her to go away and she went away," the little boy went on, in a quiet narrative to himself, "she came and said, 'I'm going to eat you up,' and I said, 'no, you're not,' and I chased her away, the bad old mean witch."

He stopped talking and looked up as the outside door of the coach opened and a man came in. He was an elderly man, with a pleasant face under white hair, his blue suit was only faintly touched by the disarray that comes from a long train trip. He was carrying a cigar, and when the little boy said, "Hi," the man gestured at him with the cigar and said, "Hello yourself, son." He stopped just beside the little boy's seat, and leaned against the back, looking down at the little boy, who craned his neck to look upward. "What you looking for out that window?" the man asked.

"Witches," the little boy said promptly. "Bad old mean witches.

"I see," the man said. "Find many?"

"My father smokes cigars," the little boy said.

"All men smoke cigars," the man said. "Someday you'll smoke a cigar, too."

"I'm a man already," the little boy said.

"How old are you?" the man asked.

The little boy, at the eternal question, looked at the man suspiciously for a minute and then said, "Twenty-six. Eight hunnerd and forty eighty."

His mother lifted her head from the book. "Four," she said, smiling fondly at the little boy.

"Is that so?" the man said politely to the little boy. "Twenty-six." he nodded his head at the mother across the aisle. "Is that your mother?"

The little boy leaned forward to look and then said. Yes, That's her."

"What's your name." the man asked.

The little boy looked suspicious again. "Mr. Jesus," he said.

"Johnny," the little boy's mother said. She caught the little boy's eye and frowned deeply.

"That's my sister over there, " the little boy said to the man. "She's twelve-and-a half."

"Do you love your sister?" the man asked. The little boy stared, and the man came around the side of the seat and sat down next to the little boy. "Listen," the man said, "shall I tell you about my little sister."

The mother, who had looked up anxiously when the man sat down next to her little boy, went peacefully back to her book.

"Tell me about your sister," the little boy said. "Was she a witch?"

"Maybe," the man said.

The little boy laughed excitedly, and the man leaned back and puffed at his cigar. "Once upon a time," he began, "I had a little sister, just like yours." The little boy looked up at the man, nodding at every word. "My little sister," the man went on, "was so pretty and so nice that I loved her more than anything else in the world. So shall I tell you what I did?"

The little boy nodded more vehemently, and the mother lifted her eyes form her book and smiled, listening.

"I bought her a rocking-horse and a doll and a million lollipops," the man said, "and then I took her and I put my hands around her neck and pinched her until she was dead."

The little boy gasped and the mother turned around, her smile fading. She opened her mouth, and then closed it again as the man went on, "And then I took and I cut her head off and I took her head —"

"Did you cut her all in pieces?" the little boy asked breathlessly.

"I cut off her head and her hands and her feet and her hair and her nose," the man said, "and I hit her with a stick and I killed her."

"Wait a minute," the mother said, but the baby fell over sideways just at that minute and by the time the mother had set her up again the man was going on.

"And I took her head and I pulled out all her hair and—"

"Your little *sister*?" the little boy prompted eagerly.

"My little sister," the man said firmly. "And I put her head in a cage with a bear and the bear ate it all up."

"Ate her *head* all up?" the little boy asked.

The mother put her book down and came across the aisle. She stood next to the man and said, "Just what do you think you're doing?" The man looked up courteously and she said, "Get out of here."

"Did I frighten you?" the man said. He looked down at the little boy and nudged him with an elbow and he and the little boy laughed.

"This man cut up his little sister," the little boy said to his mother.

"I can very easily call the conductor," the mother said to the man.

"The conductor will *eat* my mommy," the little boy said. "We'll chop her head off."

"And little sister's head, too," the man said. He stood up, and the mother stood back to him get out of the seat. "Don't ever come back in this car," she said.

"My mommy will eat *you*," the little boy said to the man.

The man laughed, and the little boy laughed, and then the man said, "Excuse me," to the mother and went past her out of the car. When the door had closed behind him the little boy said, "How much longer do we have to stay on this old train?"

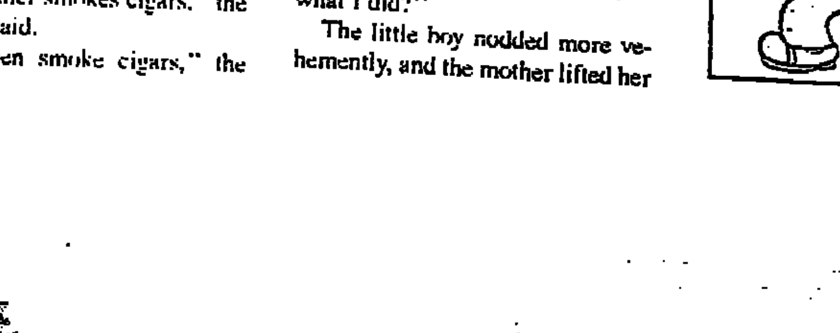
"Not much longer," the mother said. She stood looking at the little boy, wanting to say something, and finally she said, "You sit still and be a good boy. You may have another lollipop."

The little boy climbed down eagerly and followed his mother back to her seat. She took a lollipop from a bag in her pocketbook and gave it to him. "What do you say?" she asked.

"Thank you," the little boy said. "Did that man really cut his little sister up in pieces?"

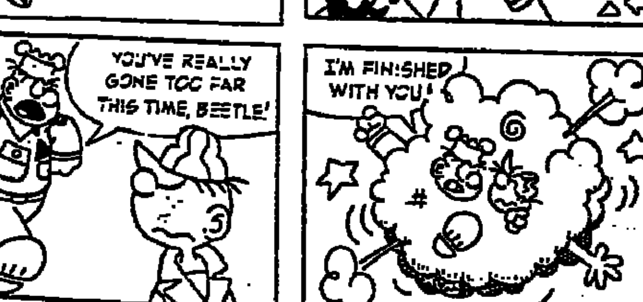
"He was just teasing," the mother said, and added urgently, "Just *teasing*."

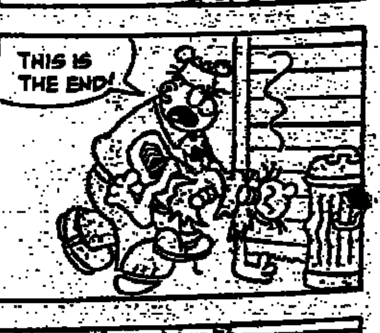
"Prob'ly," the little boy said. With his lollipop he went back to his own seat, and settled himself to look out the window again. "Prob'ly he was a witch."











GOODBYE AND GOOD RIDDANCE!



